

TIMES APPEAL

Children who can't speak for themselves

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WIN 100 ALBUMS

Choose the rock all-time top ten

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LYNNE TRUSS

In defence of the spectres at the feast

One hand clapping, page 16

30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,826 TUESDAY DECEMBER 14 1993

Russian result stuns reformers

Neo-Fascist sets sights on Yeltsin

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

■ The leader of Russia's nationalist party is already setting his sights on the presidency as the world tries to come to terms with the new reality

A SURGE of popular support for the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky has left Russia in the same position as Weimar Germany before the rise of Hitler, a leading reformer claimed last night as democrats and neighbouring states expressed alarm at the results of Russia's first parliamentary elections since the revolution.

With the ultra-right Liberal Democratic Party heading for the largest share of the vote, Yegor Gaidar said: "Zhirinovsky means war for Russia. It would be enormously dangerous if there were the slightest chance of this man becoming president." Mr Zhirinovsky, who has virulent anti-Western views and wants to establish Russian domination over former Soviet territories, had earlier celebrated his triumph by declaring that he would challenge Boris Yeltsin for the presidency in 1996.

Mr Gaidar, whose Russia's Choice group is likely to come second in the polls, called for a broad anti-Fascist coalition in the new parliament although he admitted that there was little chance of the Communists — the third biggest party — joining forces against nationalists who were their allies in the old Supreme Soviet.

At the same time, however, both the nationalists and the Communists played down talk of a "brown-red alliance". The Communist leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, said: "We have no common ground with those who seek Russia's expansion to the boundaries of the former Soviet Union", and Mr Zhirinovsky told television interviewers that he would prefer to work with Mr Gaidar than with the Communists.

Mr Gaidar, a first deputy prime minister, was adamant that there should be no compromise with the nationalists, saying: "The presence of Fascists in parliament is itself a defeat for Russian democracy." He admitted that the democrats' failure in the polls had been partly due to internal divisions, and conceded: "We are all to blame for not explaining to people the danger facing them."

The final outcome of the election will not be known for some time, but according to results from a quarter of the electoral regions, Mr Zhirinovsky had captured 24 per cent of the vote, Russia's Choice had 13 per cent and the Communists 10 per cent. The Agrarian party, Women of Russia and the pro-reform Yakoblo bloc seem certain to achieve the 5 percent vote necessary to secure parliamentary seats.

Successful candidates included two of the 12 defendants in the 1991 Soviet coup trial: Anatoli Lukyanov, former chairman of the Soviet parliament, will return to the lower house, while Vasili Starodubstev goes to the upper house. Both can now claim immunity from prosecution.

Russia's neighbours yesterday expressed concern at the nationalists' strong showing, and the leaders of the thre Baltic republics — which Mr Zhirinovsky wants to reintegrate into a revived empire — have called a summit today to discuss their response. The Estonian prime minister, Mart Laar, said: "Europe cannot forget the experience of Germany in the 1930s."

Norway described the results as frightening and Sweden said they were disturbing. Germany's foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, said Nato must be especially cautious about taking in new eastern European members, but he called for the West to continue to give aid to encourage economic restructuring in Russia.

Both Britain and America concentrated on welcoming Russia's acceptance of a new constitution, but President Clinton said he was not surprised by the strong support for the ultra-right, given the way the Russian people had suffered in the past few years.

Mr Yeltsin, too, concentrated on his narrow success in winning backing for the new constitution which gives him greater powers. He avoided mention of the democrats' failure to fend off the challenge from the far left and right, and instead vowed to safeguard democratic reforms. "The new constitution is our common hope for the restoration of a great and strong Russia," he said.

The poor performance by the pro-Yeltsin Russia's Choice is a severe embarrassment both to the president and his government, and yesterday there were signs of division as to handle the rise of Mr Zhirinovsky — who has called for the resignation of Viktor Chernomyrdin, the prime minister, and Andrei Kozyrev, the foreign minister. Before Mr Gaidar's call for a unified front against the far right, a presidential spokesman had said that the democrats could find common ground on "social issues, a strong Russia and patriotism" with both nationalists and the Communists. There were also doubts about the future loyalty of one of Mr Yeltsin's oldest aides, Gennadi Burbulis, who has blamed the president for bungling the election.

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Vladimir Zhirinovsky celebrating his election triumph at his campaign HQ yesterday. He aims to challenge Boris Yeltsin for the presidency

Climber dies after rescue

BY EMMA WILKINS

A WOMAN climber who was trapped on a Scottish mountain for 15 hours while her companion set off for help died after being rescued yesterday.

Jane Thomas, 33, of Temple Sowerby, Cumbria, had a faint pulse when she was examined near the peak of Cairn Gorm by RAF doctors, but died shortly after being flown to hospital.

Her husband Robert had abandoned the climb after a few hours and returned to the foot of the mountain.

Mrs Thomas pressed on with their friend George McEwan, who tried in vain to dig her into a snow hole after she collapsed with exhaustion. Winds of up to 80mph and deep snow made the task impossible and he set off for help.

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Waldegrave 'lost in Wonderland'

BY MICHAEL DYNES WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM Waldegrave was like Alice in Wonderland, Alan Clark, the former trade and defence minister, told Lord Justice Scott's enquiry yesterday.

Mr Waldegrave's conviction that the Government's arms export policy could not have been changed because it had not been announced in Parliament first, put the minister for open government in an "Alice in Wonderland situation", Mr Clark said. "I certainly don't want to land former colleagues in it, Mr Waldegrave least of all," Mr Clark added. "I suppose by stretching the meaning of words you could say they hadn't changed."

Describing a secret ministerial decision to relax the 1985 Howe arms export guidelines, Mr Clark said that although the policy change had been "relatively slight", it was nonetheless a "palpable" one. As a result, a more liberal policy on arms exports was put into operation, allowing more equipment to be shipped to Iraq, he said.

The decision to implement the new policy was taken in December 1988 by Mr Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, Mr Clark, the trade minister, and Lord Trefgarne, the defence minister, in the wake of the Iran-Iraq ceasefire in August.

Mr Clark told Lord Justice Scott that he would have been prepared to make the announcement himself, but to do so would have been to trespass on Foreign Office territory. He added: "I was quite ready to detonate this once and for all and get it out of the way." But the Foreign Office was anxious that any announcement would have caused "presentational problems" because of the public outcry caused by President Saddam Hussein's use of chemical weapons against the Kurds.

Mr Clark spoke of an understandable reluctance by ministers to stir up Parliament by alerting it to controversial policy changes. "You must never lie," he said. "If you do lie and get caught out, your resignation has to follow." But "you can't do all their work for them". It was not our job "to spoon-feed MPs".

MPs were given hints, however, that there had been a change of policy through the new form of wording used in answers to parliamentary questions. Any experienced observer should have realised that something was happening, the former minister said.

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Branson bids to run lottery for nothing

BY NEIL BENNETT

RICHARD Branson and Lord Young of Graffham yesterday launched a charity bid to run the National Lottery supported by senior former politicians.

Mr Branson, head of the Virgin airline and record shops group, said his bid for the £4 billion a year lottery would ensure that hundreds of millions of pounds extra would go to good causes.

Apart from Lord Young, the former trade secretary and chairman of Cable & Wireless, trustees will include Viscount Whitelaw, the former home secretary, Lord Callaghan, the former Labour prime minister and Viscount Tonypandy, the former Commons Speaker.

Mr Branson has set up a charitable foundation which would distribute all profits to charity, unlike the many other bidders who hope to gain from their involvement. He and Lord Young are working for nothing and will guarantee £200 million of the trust's borrowings. IBM will supply equipment for the lottery which will be run in up to 20,000 shops.

Mr Branson's bid would create the largest charitable foundation in the country. The lottery is expected to start late next year, and could become the largest in the world, creating a millionaire a week.

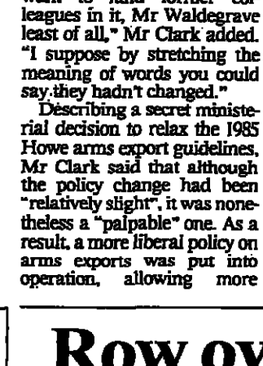
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Row over films makes Gatt talks into a cliffhanger

BY JAMES LANDALE AND GEORGE BROCK

THE Gatt world trade talks went into a cliffhanging final phase last night after Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community's trade negotiator, recommended that EC foreign ministers reject the latest American demand for concessions in the audiovisual sector.

The question of EC protection of its film and television industries is the last important outstanding point of disagreement between the two trading blocs. But Peter Sutherland, director-general of Gatt, warned last night that the sector could be dropped from the agreement in order to preserve the rest of it. Mr Sutherland said a text of the agreement would be published today.



Sutherland: films may be dropped from deal

John Major was optimistic yesterday that the negotiations were near agreement, telling the House of Commons that talks were "98 per cent of the way towards the finishing line". In a statement to the House the Prime Minister said that the main, though not the sole, outstanding area of difference was still the audiovisual issue, which concerned not only France but other nations.

He told the House: "It would be a tragedy if the talks were to break down upon such a — though important — relatively narrow part of the Gatt round at this very late stage. The United States have recognised the special nature of the audiovisual sector. The discussion has narrowed down on that to a relatively small number of detailed points."

Mr Major emphasised that the situation was changing by the minute but called the negotiations hugely ambitious and a prize worth fighting for. "The Gatt talks will be by far the most important boost to international confidence and job creation. Independent estimates suggest that the economies of European countries would be the single biggest gainer from the Uruguay round," he said.

Ministers were last night on the point of rejecting the demands as Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, asked for another meeting on the audiovisual issue on Wednesday, just hours before the deadline for agreement. President Clinton has until midnight tomorrow, 5am GMT on Thursday, before his mandate to push the deal through in a single "fast track" runs out.

Gatt chief's warning, page 11
EC backs down, page 23

Lost Haydn sonatas found in Germany

BY BARRY MILLINGTON

SIX lost piano sonatas by the 18th-century composer, Joseph Haydn, have come to light in Westphalia, Germany. The owner isan octogenarian woman in Münster, who is believed to have had the manuscript for many years without realising the importance of what it contained.

Earlier this year she showed it to a local music teacher, who alerted Haydn experts. It is expected that the manuscript will now go to auction. The find will be announced in London today by Professor H.C. Robbins Landon, the leading Haydn biographer.

Scholars have long known that sonatas dating from the middle of Haydn's life were missing, because the composer compiled a catalogue that listed the incipits (first few bars) of each piece. The newly-discovered manuscript is not in Haydn's hand; it is a later copy, probably made in about 1805. But experts are certain that the music is of six missing sonatas dating from 1766-69.

They are believed to have been among the first sonatas written by Haydn specifically for the fortepiano, the forerunner of the modern piano. They will also be valued by musicians because they were composed at a crucial moment in Haydn's life, when he was first attempting to express in music the turbulent sentiments of the "Sturm und Drang" (Storm and Stress) literary movement.

The Austrian pianist Paul Badura-Skoda is to give the first modern performance of the sonatas at Harvard University in February. They will be published in April.

Long-lost sonatas, page 29

RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS.



THE FAMOUS GROUSE FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE.

Burbling bear conducts his defence at arm's length

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, spoke feelingly at Questions yesterday of the "arm's length principle". Mr Brooke has had practice at the arm's length principle, having applied it to his whole career. But MPs angry about the Arts Council tried to ambush him. What, asked the Tories' Sir Tom Arnold (C, Hazel Grove), was Mr Brooke going to do about London's orchestras?

Mr Brooke was at arm's length from orchestras. "This is a situation still in the process of evolving," he added, helpfully.

Another evolving situation turned out to be the British press, and its intrusive behaviour. Labour's Clive Soley wanted "more teeth" for the Press Complaints Commission.

Mr Brooke was at arm's length from the press. He noted that Mr Soley often asked about it. "May I thank him for his continuing interest?" he burbled amiably.

Next to be flattered was Peter Bottomley (C, Eltham), one of those unusual ex-ministers who do not spend the rest of their careers sulking, but get on with being a backbencher again. The press, said Mr Bottomley, was sometimes wrong, sometimes awkward, but good for democracy. "My hon friend has described himself," smiled Brooke, Zen-like. As to the substance of Mr Bottomley's question, Mr Brooke was at arm's length from this. We began to wonder how Mr Brooke and the late Mrs Brooke ever produced little Brookes.

Even the reliably histrionic Mark Fisher, a Labour spokesman, failed to prod Mr Brooke into more than an arm's length stutter. Mr Fisher saw a "deep crisis of credibility and of confidence" — but then he always does. Mr Brooke managed a passable imitation of one of those elderly bears in zoos that children poke at with sticks in the hope of provoking a snarl. The bear stayed at arm's length. Drawing himself up, and in tones of mild surprise, Mr Brooke remarked: "The hon gentleman has asked a series of running questions based on a series of newspaper articles and they didn't frankly add up in precisely the same direction of thrust of the question the hon gentleman is asking". On song, Peter Brooke is a sort of toffs' John Prescott.

When it came to a long and earnest question from Michael Fabricant (C, Mid Staffs), Mr Brooke found himself at such arm's length from it all that his attention wandered during his own answer, and he forgot what Mr Fabricant had actually asked. "Just a word," he called to the distraught backbencher, "a *word* — to remind me what it was about".

But, whenever Mr Brooke does retire to pen his masterwork, *Zen and the Art of Cabinet Government*, we shall miss him. We would miss Toby Jessel (C, Twickenham), whom Iain Sproat, the junior Heritage Secretary, called "warm, lucid and persuasive", as MPs strained to hear, above the crash of flying pigs smashing into the roof. Mr Jessel said the royal family were good value at 50p per citizen, and we agreed: but what does Mr Jessel cost, per head? Do we wish to continue with our subscription? We do.

Apropos of nothing much, Sir Donald Thompson (C, Calder Valley) told the world how much he had just enjoyed a play in his constituency. The genial Sir Don has spent much of his life at arm's length from things like opera and ballet, but the canny repertory players have spotted (what your typical Arts Council grant-seeker never does) how best to arouse a Tory backbencher's interest in the arts. Sir Don had found the play "an absolute pleasure and delight". It was *The Wizard of Oz*.

Major says the key to Ulster accord is substance, not speed

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

■ The Prime Minister will search for an agreement for as long as it takes to ensure an end to Northern Ireland's violence

JOHN Major told MPs last night he was trying to secure a "balanced" agreement on the future of Northern Ireland that would bring an end to violence. He spoke in the Commons as London and Dublin officials were reported to be making progress on removing the obstacles to a joint declaration between the two governments.

Mr Major emphasised that he would rather spend time getting a workable agreement than rush towards a quick solution. But it appeared likely that he would decide today on the timing of his third meeting with Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister. The two were due to talk on the telephone yesterday but the conversation was delayed while officials continued to work on a draft. Downing Street said the third meeting would "very likely" be in London before Christmas.

Ulster Unionist and Conservative MPs continue to voice doubts over whether any declaration could achieve the bold objectives set by Mr Reynolds and Mr Major. But the Prime Minister told the Commons: "I am more concerned with getting the declaration right than necessarily getting it in a particularly short time."

Mr Major said the murder of two policemen in Co Tyrone at the weekend added to "a catalogue of crime by paramilitaries over recent years that is a blot on the history of Ireland." In his discussions with Mr Reynolds he was trying to find "a circumstance that will end such murders in the future".

He said: "I have never pretended to this House that that will be easy. I do believe it is a policy worth pursuing in the hope that we will be able to bring an end to the violence that has for so long bedevilled the lives of people in Northern Ireland."

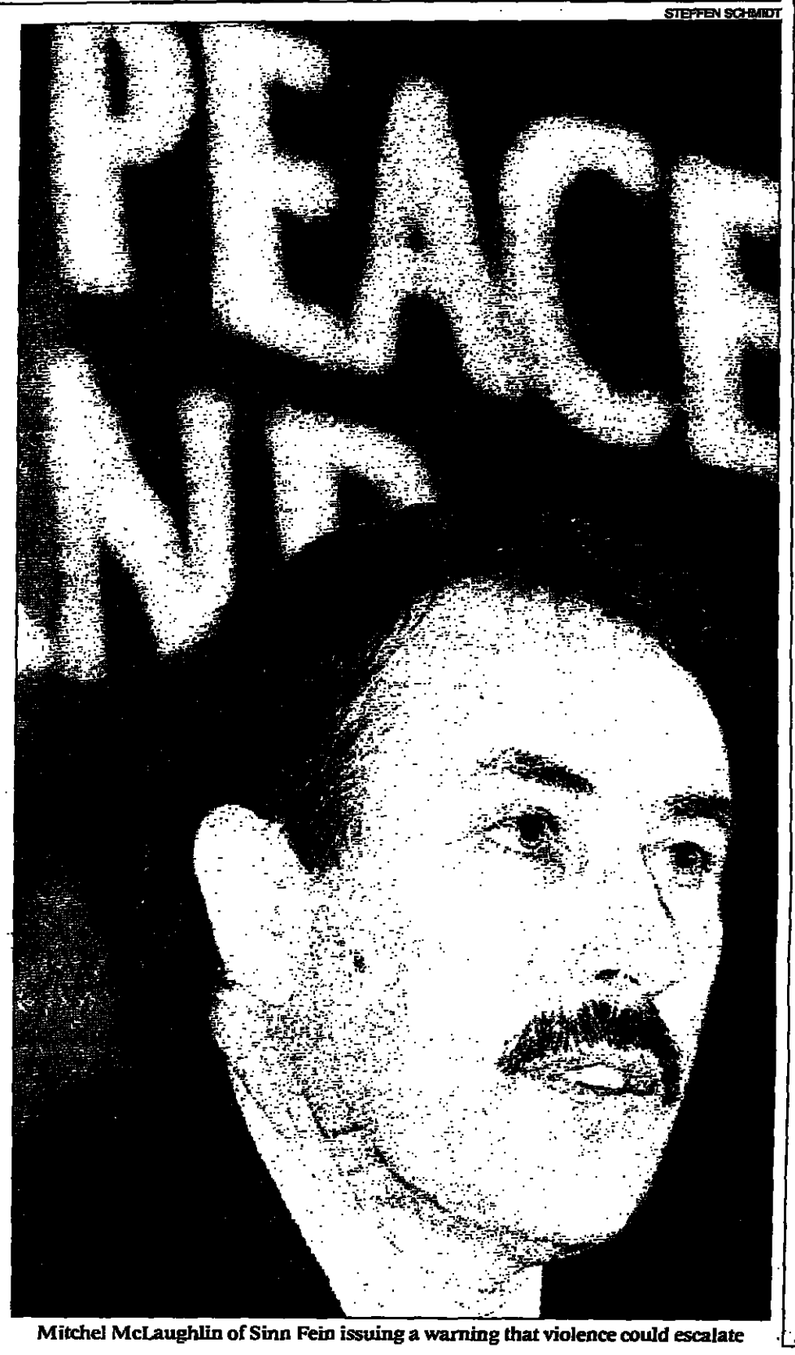
Mr Major's remarks confirmed that Britain now accepts that the Anglo-Irish initiative is linked to an attempt to end violence and has been separated from the constitutional talks process.

He said: "It is important that the agreement we reach should be a balanced agreement that can be seen to be fair by all the communities in Northern Ireland ... I must say, I do not know how much longer it will take."

Earlier, Sinn Fein warned of all-out civil war in Ulster if London and Dublin failed to find a solution. Mitchel McLaughlin, chairman of Sinn Fein's Ulster executive, said in London: "If this opportunity is squandered the war may well escalate."

☐ Representatives from the leading broadcasters in Britain, including the BBC, ITN, Channel 4, Sky News and CNN will today ask Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, to overturn the broadcasting ban on Sinn Fein, which they say is pointless and an "international embarrassment" for the British media.

STEFFEN SCHMIDT



Mitchel McLaughlin of Sinn Fein issuing a warning that violence could escalate

Loyalist gunmen murder 'informer'

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

LOYALIST gunmen murdered a man in Belfast yesterday for allegedly acting as a Special Branch informer. The outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters said he had told police about a number of arms caches in the city.

The victim, in his mid 20s, was found shot in the head in an empty flat in the Shankill area.

The Rev Arthur Parker, of the Methodist Shankill Mission, said he was shocked by the killing but did not believe that it would derail the widespread yearning for peace.

The killing came after the IRA murdered two policemen in Co Tyrone on Sunday. And as paramilitary violence continued to cast a shadow over the intergovernmental peace initiative, opposition politicians in Dublin accused Albert Reynolds, the Prime Minister, of kowtowing to the IRA.

John Bruton, the leader of Fine Gael, said: "Mr Reynolds talked about violence coming from both communities in Northern Ireland and from the security forces. That is almost putting the activities of the security forces on the same level as the IRA."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Boy, 9, questioned over baby's murder

A nine-year-old boy has been interviewed by police investigating the murder of a 13-month-old girl from Peckham, southeast London. The baby died from a brain haemorrhage ten hours after being admitted to King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, southeast London, nine days ago. The boy, who is not related to the baby's family, was questioned in the presence of a "responsible adult", police said last night. "This is a very delicate enquiry. There were other children present when the incident took place," a Scotland Yard spokesman said.

Police, who began the murder investigation after the results of a post-mortem examination, have taken the unusual step of not naming the baby girl to protect the identity of other children. The boy was interviewed several days ago and enquiries are likely to continue until the new year. An inquest into the death was opened and adjourned by the Inner South London coroner last week. Children aged nine or under are below the age of criminal responsibility and cannot be charged with any criminal offence.

Power cut stops city

Thousands of homes, offices and factories in Liverpool were affected by a power cut lasting 50 minutes yesterday afternoon. Passengers were stranded on electric trains and Merseyside Fire Brigade had many calls to release people trapped in lifts. Police said: "We logged the failure at 13.13 on the thirteenth. If you are superstitious it's quite uncanny."

PC loses court case

A policeman yesterday lost a private prosecution for assault at Oxford Crown Court. PC Tony Stallard, 54, based at Witney, Oxfordshire, spent thousands of pounds to prosecute Kevin Crierie, 19, a plasterer, and Justin Hind, 18, a butcher, both of Witney, after the Crown Prosecution Service dropped the case.

Flu epidemic kills 46

The death toll from the flu epidemic is continuing to rise. The most recent figures show that at least 46 people died in the last week of November, while only two people died in the week to October 22. The Royal College of General Practitioners said reported cases now appeared to be falling but the disease remained at three times the seasonal norm.

Patience pays off

Ewart "Jumbo" Gearing, who served with the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment during the Second World War, has received his medals after almost 48 years. The former Private Gearing, 80, from Kingston, West Sussex, was told in 1946 that his medals — the 1939-45 Star, the Burma Star, the Defence Medal and the War Medal — would be sent on.

£21,000 for Garbo letters



A collection of 40 letters revealing the bleak life of Greta Garbo, left, sold for £21,850 to an anonymous telephone buyer at Sotheby's in London. The letters were mostly written to Mimi Pollak, her lifelong actress friend. Love poems by Branwell Brontë to the mother of the children he was tutoring made a total of £16,445. They were bought by the Brontë Museum and the Brotherton Collection.

Couple win tax case

Erewash Borough Council was wrong to try to jail George Smedburg, 80, an epileptic, and his wheelchair-bound wife Doris, 74, of Ilkeston, Derbyshire, for not paying their poll tax, Mr Justice Auld said at the High Court yesterday. The couple were sentenced to 28 days by Ilkeston magistrates over arrears of £349.95 each. The judge said there was uncertainty as to whether they had defaulted, and their ages and ill health also meant they should not be jailed.

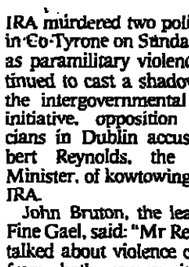
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NHS boss to earn £100,000 while board costs are pared

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

THE new NHS chief executive is to be paid up to £100,000 a year despite a clampdown by the Government on management costs in the health service, it emerged yesterday.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, will next month announce rules limiting the amount that can be spent by NHS trusts on management costs. The ceiling, which will cover managers' salaries and expenses, will be linked to the cost of running the hospital. Trust boards will be able to spend only a certain percentage of their total bill on administration.

The stricter curbs coincide with the appointment of a replacement for Duncan Nichol, the NHS chief executive, at a salary well in excess of the Prime Minister's pay of £76,000.

Mr Nichol, who leaves in March, earns £82,925, the salary of a second permanent secretary. But ministerial sources argue that an equivalent post in the private sector masterminding a £30 billion budget would attract a salary of more than £200,000.

Under the guidelines to be published next month, trusts will have discretion over how much to pay their managers provided the total does not breach the ceiling.

They will, however, have to spell out what they spend their money on, including salaries, company cars and other perks.

The new regulations will coincide with a report from the Corporate Governance Task Force set up last June to examine how effective trust and health authority chairmen have been in holding trusts to account.

The task force report will outline the role of trust chairmen and executive members of the trust boards. The move to make trusts more accountable to the Secretary of State runs counter to the thrust of giving these hospitals maximum flexibility to run their own affairs. However, ministers have been embarrassed about recent reports of the high number of NHS administrators and feel there is a need to demonstrate that costs are being kept in hand.

Mrs Bottomley has already announced that she intends to abolish all 14 regional health authorities, a move expected to result in thousands of job losses.

On Wednesday she is expected to spell out the next stages of an ambitious programme to close several of London's teaching hospitals.

The announcements, which will be staggered during the next two months to coincide with consultation periods for each hospital, are expected to include the closure of St Bartholomew's Hospital in the City and the Royal Marsden in West London.

Teachers 'fail to set an example'

By Ben Preston
Education Correspondent

POOR teachers contribute to bad behaviour in class and should set pupils a better example, school inspectors said yesterday.

The Office for Standards in Education said in a report, *Achieving Good Behaviour in Schools*, that courteous teachers who were seen by pupils to work hard were central to attempts to improve discipline in one in four schools where standards were inadequate.

The inspectors reported "growing concern" about pupils' behaviour and a rise in the number of expulsions of more than a third between 1990 and 1992. They noted an "unacceptably wide variation" in the offences that led to suspension.

The study, of 138 primary, 181 secondary and 30 special schools, concluded that most classrooms were hard-working places.

Vocational A levels, page 7

Brooke warns against press controls

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent

FEARS that the publication of "peeping tom" photographs of the Princess of Wales by two national newspapers would lead to the introduction of tough statutory curbs on freedom of the press receded last night. Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, told MPs the press should not be subjected to "cumbersome" new regulations.

Speaking at Commons question time, Mr Brooke said it was desirable for self-regulation to be maintained "if it possibly can be" and that "the important thing in an area like this is to make sure that we don't produce a machinery that's really more cumbersome than what we're seeking to solve".

Mr Brooke's comments come four weeks after the princess roundly condemned the publication in the *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror* of photographs of her working out in a private gym as a "gross intrusion" into her privacy.

Mr Brooke put the press on renewed notice last month that it would face the imposition of draconian curbs on journalistic freedom if it was unable to make the "quantum leap" required to transform its discredited system of self-regulation into one that was "credible" and "carried conviction". His comments to MPs last night, however, were widely interpreted as a sign of a softening of the Government's position, ahead of publication early next year of its White Paper on privacy.

Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, welcomed the Government's recognition of the improvements made by the Press Complaints Commission. "I think we are making progress. Many of the ideas for imposing stricter controls on the press, such as the introduction of an ombudsman, would be cumbersome."

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Court told pair 'buckled more swash off set than on'

Oliver Reed sued for 'joke' that broke stand-in's spine

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

OLIVER REED, the hell-raising star of 80 films, took his appetite for playing drunken pranks too far when he tipped his stand-in off a 12ft restaurant balcony onto a coral beach, the High Court was told yesterday.

Reg Prince, the actor's friend of 20 years, broke his spine in two places when the joke misfired. He has not been able to work since.

Mr Prince, 57, from Wimbledon, southwest London, who limped into court with the help of a walking stick, is suing Mr Reed for damages over the 1986 incident, which happened during the filming of *Castaway* in the Seychelles. He accuses Mr Reed either of deliberate and reckless lack of care or negligence.

Peter Dedman, counsel for Mr Prince, said the action was brought "more in sorrow than in anger" because of the friendship the two men had enjoyed. They had been "involved in many escapades and scraps, both on the film set and off, and in many instances there was more swash buckled off the set than there was on," he said.

Mr Reed, 55, of Vale, Guernsey, was in court to hear his former close companion describe the actor's penchant for public display. On occasions in bars and restaurants he allegedly displayed his penis, on which was tattooed a pair of bird's claws, while at other times he would urinate in a glass to show how much liquid he could hold. Often, Mr Prince said, that got Mr Reed into trouble and fights from which he was required to rescue him as an unofficial bodyguard.

The beginning of the filming was "happy", but Mr Reed's heavy drinking upset quite a few people, including the leading lady Amanda Donohoe. Scenes had to be re-shot, he said. Mr Prince used to eat with Mr Reed and his wife Josephine, 28, but the "happiness" was not maintained between the couple. He saw Mrs Reed's clothes being thrown out of the Reeds' chalet and scattered over the lawn and the balcony. The incident, which it is claimed ruined Mr Prince's career, happened during a break in filming at La Réserve restaurant on the island resort of Praslin, when most of the filming had been done. Mr Prince met Mr Reed and his friend John "Ginger" Hughes, who had both been drinking, and they were all "merry" by the time they reached the restaurant.



Prince: has not worked since incident

Mr Reed started doing handstands on the balustrade, and Mr Hughes grabbed his legs and made as though he would tip him over the edge, which upset the star.

Mr Reed then walked along the pier to some people at the far end "and I believe he showed his penis", Mr Prince said. He had done a similar thing at a wedding reception for a member of the film crew, when he had approached three black men and started showing the tattoo on his penis. They "went crazy", he said. Mr Prince had escorted the actor to safety because the men had threatened to cut off his penis.

Mr Prince said of the incident in which he was injured: "I was looking out to sea over the balustrade, leaning over and watching people enjoying themselves. While I was standing there Oliver came up behind me and grabbed my legs by the ankles. I called out to him because I did not believe he had any intentions of flipping me over and if he did have the intention he would have believed the sea was in.

"I called out. I laughed. It was basically like a joke. On prior occasions he has pushed me into swimming pools. Then he flipped me over. I landed on the beach on my back. The tide was out. I was unconscious for a while. It only seemed like moments. The lower part of my back hurt."

Furious with Mr Reed for what he had done, he struggled back to the jetty and approached him. "I swore at him. I was in too much pain and slightly concussed to remember what was conversed. I pulled out the knife, a diver's knife from my belt. I threatened him with it."

Mr Prince said that after the incident the two men made it up and on the night before he was flown back to Britain, Mr Reed came in bearing a hamburger for him as he lay in agony on his bed.

Mr Reed, who signed autographs outside the court, claims the accident happened when he sidestepped or tried to protect himself from an assault by Mr Prince.

Mr Justice Owen is being asked to decide the question of liability only and any damages will be assessed later.

The case continues today.



Oliver Reed and his wife Josephine arriving at the High Court yesterday

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Husband abandoned ascent in appalling weather

Woman climber dies after mountain blizzard rescue

BY RONALD FAUX AND BILL FROST

A WOMAN climber died yesterday after being rescued from a Highland mountain where she had been trapped for 15 hours in appalling weather.

Jane Thomas, 33, was suffering from hypothermia and exhaustion when she was found by a police dog close to the summit of Cairn Gorm, near Aviemore. She was lying in the open and had been partially buried in fresh snow.

Still showing faint signs of life, she was carried down the mountain and airlifted to Raigmore Hospital in Inverness, but did not survive.

Yesterday her husband, Robert Thomas, told how exhaustion had forced him to abandon the climb on Sunday, leaving her to continue with their companion, George McEwan, a mountaineering instructor.

Mrs Thomas, of Temple Sowerby, Cumbria, was an experienced climber. When her husband decided against making the ascent, she pressed on with Mr McEwan.

When Mrs Thomas collapsed, Mr McEwan dragged her for a mile through deep snow then tried to dig her into a snow hole, but was thwarted by a blizzard and deep snow. He then left her in a small depression about 300 metres from the summit and went for help.

Seventy people joined yesterday's rescue operation. Conditions were described as appalling with winds gusting up to 60mph, a wind-chill factor of -25C and poor visibility. A Sea King helicopter flew men and dogs from the Leuchars, Kinloss and Cairngorm mountain rescue teams onto the mountain. Mrs Thomas was found on a 30-degree slope near one of the ski tows by a police dog based at nearby Aviemore.



Thomas: trapped in snow for 15 hours

She was wearing several layers of warm clothing but was not in a survival bag. She was unconscious but RAF medics and a local doctor detected a faint pulse and tried to revive her. Mrs Thomas was then flown to hospital but was "deeply hypothermic" during the flight and was found to be dead shortly after arrival.

Mr Thomas said last night: "The snow was thigh-deep and heavily drifted and hard work to make a way through. I was shattered getting to the foot of the climb but Jane and George were okay. I headed off and was back in the car park by 2pm. The wind had started to pick up five hours ahead of the forecast.

"Jane found the last part of the route tricky. In the bad conditions, George got her on to the easy but very exposed ground on the plateau. By this time Jane was extremely tired.

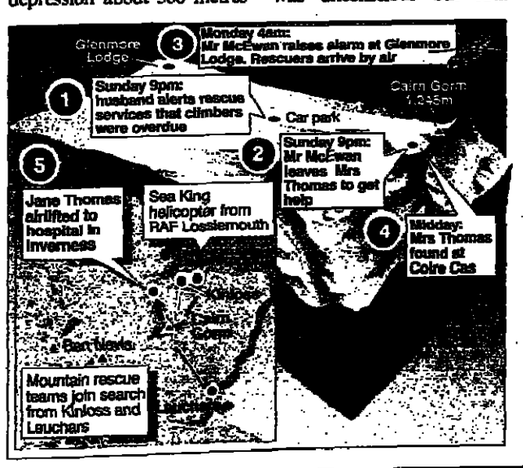
"They crossed a small summit leading into Corrie Cass. By this time it was dark with soft drifting snow making the going extremely hard. Jane collapsed and George dragged her for a mile through the deep snow, being forced to stop every three metres.

"The snow was too soft to make a shelter. Jane had become deeply unconscious by this stage. He pulled her into as sheltered a place as possible, put their two rucksacks against her and laid out the climbing rope around her.

"As the wind and cold increased George realised they needed help desperately because he, too, was beginning to lapse into unconsciousness. He then set off for help."

John Allen, leader of Cairngorm mountain rescue team, said the two were seasoned climbers and had been well equipped.

☐ Mountain rescuers began searching the Glencoe area last night for two climbers last seen on Friday. The missing men were in a group of four members of the Parachute Regiment. After splitting from their colleagues they planned to climb Coire Nam Beath on the south side of Glencoe.



Thomas's rich controller

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

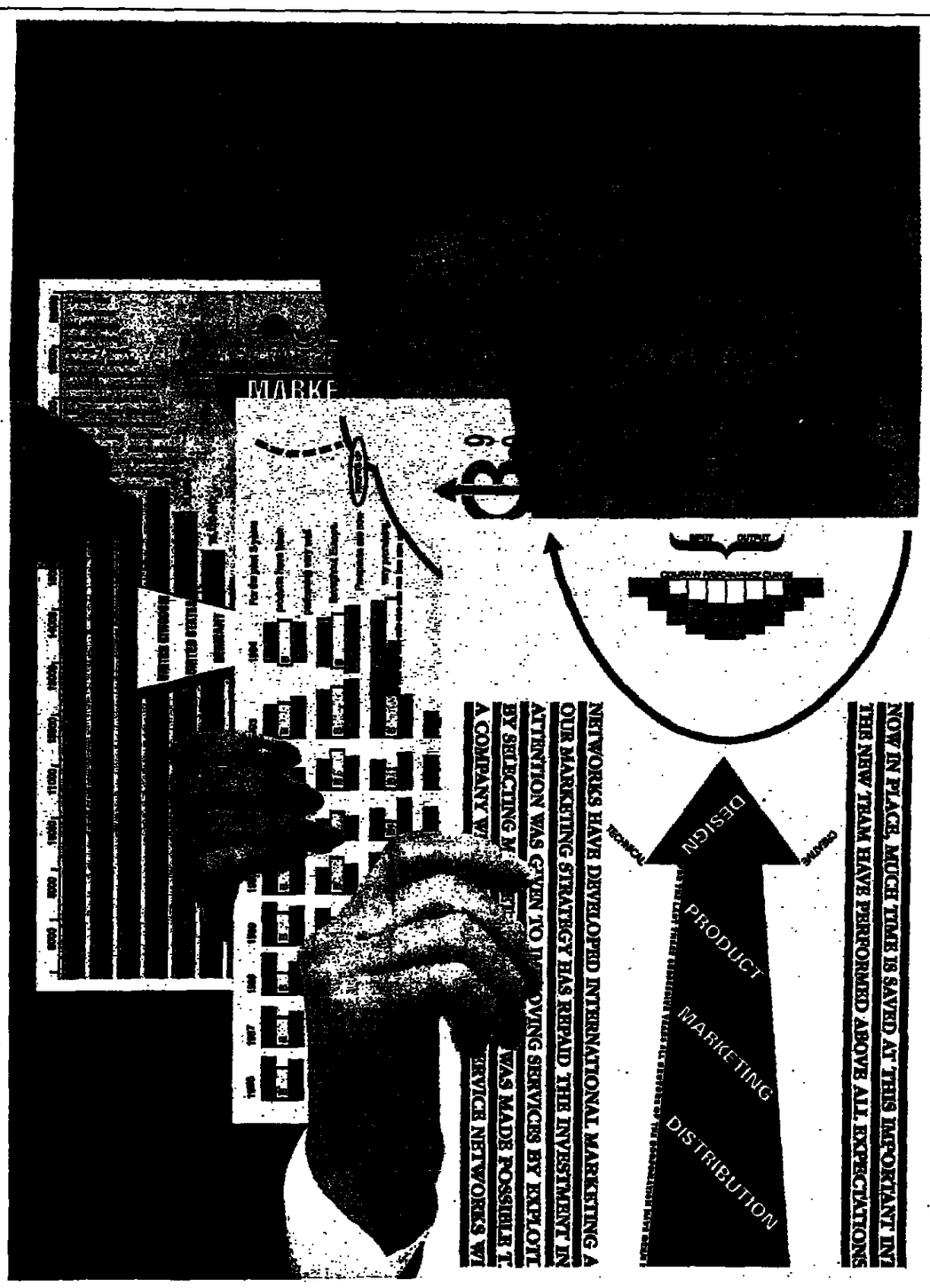
THOMAS the Tank Engine, star of 26 illustrated children's books and three animated television series, has steamed effortlessly into the headlines again with the revelation that he has earned more than £5 million for his creator, the Reverend Wilbert Awdry.

Although he has long disapproved of the liberties taken by makers of the television adaptation of his books, Mr Awdry said last night that he had been "pleasantly surprised" at the amount of money he had earned from the animated version of his books and the myriad of spin-off merchandising deals they generated.

Despite becoming one of Britain's richest retired clergymen, Mr Awdry maintains a low-key lifestyle in the Gloucestershire home he has occupied since the Sixties. "I'm 82, crippled, chairbound and can't get up. Good Lord, why would any one of my age wish to move?" he said.

The televised version of Thomas's adventures with his railway friends has been widely sold to countries including the United States, Japan, Germany and Australia. Licencing deals have been signed for more than 500 goods.

Thomas was created in 1943 for Mr Awdry's children in a series of illustrated books about the adventures of railway engines whose affairs were directed by the Fat and Thin Controllers. More than 10 million copies of the books have been sold.



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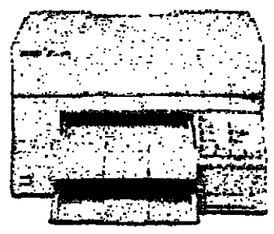
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هكذا من الأصل

'Charlene's life was my life, I had the right to take it. I could not see any future for her'

Jilted lover killed baby and mother

BY LIN JENKINS

A YOUNG man laid his baby daughter down in a quiet wood and killed her with a shotgun hours after gunning down her mother in the street, a court was told yesterday.

David Edwards had been jilted by his girl friend Marina Turvey and was involved in a bitter paternity row over their seven-month-old daughter Charlene. St Albans Crown Court was told.

Mr Edwards is alleged to have blasted Mrs Turvey at point-blank range with a sawn-off shotgun as she was walking near her home in Luton, Bedfordshire, with her new husband and Charlene. Michael Pert QC, for the prosecution, said he had then fired at Jonathan Turvey before bundling the baby into his van.

Four hours later, in a secluded woodland spot, he lay Charlene face down on the ground, put the shotgun to the back of her neck and fired.

Mr Edwards, 21, of Luton, denies murdering Marina Turvey, 19, and her daughter. The jury were told that the Crown does not accept his plea to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. He also denies the attempted murder of Jonathan Turvey.

The court was told that Mr Edwards left a cross of sticks by Charlene's body and a scribbled note: "Charlene's life was my life, I had the right to take it. I could not see any future for her in this town with those people."

Mr Edwards later told police that he stuck the shotgun in his mouth at the scene but could not take his own life.

He said he had been convinced he was Charlene's father as he was living with her mother at the time of conception, while Mr Turvey, her former boy friend, was in prison for burglary.

Mr Turvey renewed his relationship and married Marina McPherson after his release and was named on Charlene's birth certificate as the father.

Mr Pert said DNA testing since her death on April 30 this year had proved that Charlene was Mr Edwards's daughter. The killings were, Mr Pert said, the culmination of a series of events in a bitter paternity dispute. Mr Edwards had been unable to await the outcome and "took the law into his own hands".

Mr Turvey, 25, of Luton, told the court: "He jumped out of the van, pointed the gun at me and then Marina, and said, 'Get down, get down'. I heard a bang and looked around and saw Marina on the floor. I covered my head up and ran off up the road before hearing another bang."

At the end of the day's hearing, Mr Justice Schiemann had to appeal for calm after Mr Turvey lunged at the defendant and swore at him as he left court.

The trial continues.





David Edwards, above, who denies murdering his seven-month-old daughter Charlene and her mother, Marina Turvey, pictured left with Mrs Turvey's husband Jonathan. At the end of the day's hearing, Mr Turvey lunged at Mr Edwards, causing the judge to appeal for calm. In a note read to the court Mr Edwards wrote that he had relieved Charlene "of a life not worth living. Marina's life was her own and very special to a lot of people. I had no right to take it and fail to think of words to explain how sorry I feel."

Crowding reopens prisons

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

TWO mothballed prisons are to be reopened and a unit for young offenders converted into a jail for adults as part of efforts to cope with overcrowding in the penal system.

Oxford prison, closed a year ago, is to reopen its gates to prisoners in April when it will detain 120 inmates, and Finnamore Wood young offenders' institution at Marlow, Buckinghamshire, is to be converted into an establishment holding adult category-D prisoners.

The prison service is to compete with the private sector for the contract to run Buckley Hall, a former detention centre near Rochdale closed four years ago, which is to be converted into a prison to hold up to 300 inmates.

Derek Lewis, director-general of the prison service, said yesterday: "Population pressures point to the need to provide additional accommodation as quickly as possible."

The need for additional accommodation has become acute as a result of a rise in prison numbers from 42,795 a year ago to 47,256 at the end of last week.

Driver, 18, jailed for triple tragedy

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A TEENAGER who killed two young sisters and maimed a third girl when he crashed his car while drunk was locked up for four years yesterday.

Robert Hoe, 18, was twice over the legal limit when he lost control of his Ford Escort XR3 and ran into Maria Reed, 8, and her sister Rachel, 6, on Easter Sunday afternoon.

The two girls, who had been returning home from the corner sweet shop, died instantly as the car crushed them against a wall. Their companion Leigh Ann Johns, 9, lost both legs, had her back broken and pelvis and internal organs crushed.

Yesterday at Teesside Crown Court, Hoe, unemployed, from Middlesbrough, admitted two charges of causing death by dangerous driving. The court was told how Hoe, who had no driving licence or insurance, bought the car for £400 a week before the crash.

Stephen Ashurst, for the prosecution, said that Hoe had been seen driving the car around the streets of South Bank in Teesside at speeds of up to 80mph only minutes before the accident. It happened as he attempted a "rally-type" left turn into a side street. The car ran out of control and pinned the girls against the wall of the shop they had left only moments before.

Leigh Ann's plight and subsequent fortitude struck a chord with the public, who have since given thousands of pounds to help her. Initially surgeons were not sure they could save the girl. After an operation involving a transfusion of 22 pints of blood she was put into an intensive care unit where she spent a week unconcious on a ventilator.

Her good humour and concern for her two lost friends prompted well-wishers to send thousands of get-well cards and in May a fund was launched to raise £500,000 for a specially-equipped bungalow. It now stands at around £155,000. Free materials and services from local firms meant the construction cost was halved and she was able to cut the first sod in October.

As Hoe's sentence was handed down Leigh Ann and her parents were travelling to London to be honoured today for her bravery. She and seven other children were due to be presented with awards at Westminster Abbey by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker of the House of Commons, in a ceremony organised by *Woman's Own* magazine.

Aidan Marron QC, for the defence, said Hoe had "manufactured a tragedy. He has caused death and disability and long-lasting and deep pain to the relatives of those who died. He has trouble coming to terms with the enormity of the offences. He is deeply and genuinely contrite for his actions and he has genuine remorse for his victims."

London zoo boss thrown to lions

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

LONDON zoo is facing a new crisis after its board of management passed a motion of no confidence in the man appointed earlier this year to pilot the loss-making institution in Regent's Park back to profitability.

Dr Jo Gipps, who took over as the zoo's director last February, was told to resign by yesterday or face formal dismissal by the ruling council of the Zoological Society at its meeting tomorrow.



Gipps: disagreement over staff pay rise

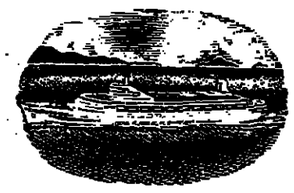
The no-confidence motion was passed by the board last Wednesday because of a disagreement with Dr Gipps over staff pay, according to insiders. The board wants to restrict staff to a pay rise of 1 per cent, but Dr Gipps is understood to have offered members of the GMB, the main zoo workers' union, a rise of 1.5 per cent.

A statement issued by the board said: "Dr Gipps is currently on leave following a disagreement over policy. The council of the Zoological Society of London will discusss the future of Dr Gipps at its regular meeting on Wednesday." Peter Wrangham, chairman, said: "London zoo has a very bright future. Our forward plans, including positioning the zoo as a world class centre for the conservation of endangered species, are unaffected by this dispute."

The embattled director said yesterday: "I am unswervingly committed to the zoo and its staff and to continuing in my position as director."

Dr Gipps took over shortly before a £21 million rescue plan was announced. Attendances have risen and the zoo is expecting to make a small profit in 1993-94, for only the second time in 15 years. Many on the board and council are said to feel that Dr Gipps, who was previously curator of mammals, has not taken a strong enough line in negotiations with zoo staff.

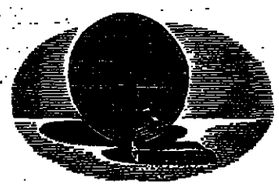
One council member said: "At the time of his appointment, many felt that it would have been better to have brought in an outside administrator."



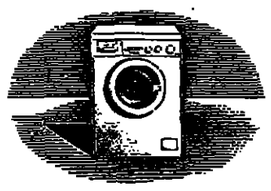
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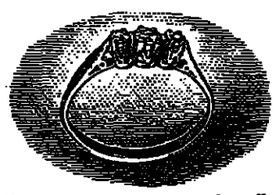
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4. The winners will be those who have answered the three questions correctly and who, in the judges' opinion, have provided the most imaginative and innovative tie-breaking sentence.

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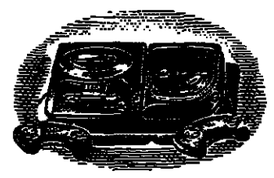
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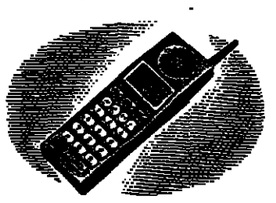
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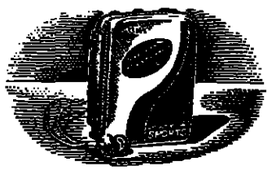
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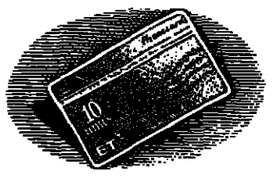
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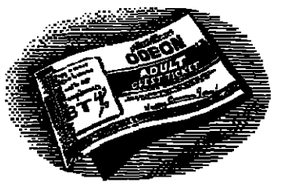
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Joe Joseph imagines how Alan Clark might record his evidence to the arms-to-Iraq enquiry in his infamous diary

Alan Clark's Diary: Monday, December 13, 1993.

My turn for Lord Justice Scott's arms-for-Iraq witness box, to do my bit for democracy-in-action and the farce of open government (shouldn't that read the farce of open democracy and government inaction?). Promises to be a dreary, tedious day in spades, with diamonds and oakleaf clusters.

I whiled away a few minutes before the 10am kick-off chatting to a slim lady with black hair and a warm, friendly smile (Hello!). I asked her if she had come specially to see me. Gratifyingly, she said she had. Then, when she walked (I swaggered) into the enquiry room, she went and sat right next to Scott. Ass. Clark! You've only been blotting your copybook with Presiley Baxendale, the QC on the case. She continued to smile winningly at me, so I assumed no smacky botties this time. But then she fired off a volley of ammo tougher than anything we sold to Baghdad. Pretty ungracious. I bet *she* never went to Eton.

I had decided to leave my corduroys at Saltwood Castle and donned my navy suit, blue shirt and watch-chain, which distinguishes you from the nouves who expect you to say *Cor!* when they tell you the price of their gold Rolexes.

I leant back in my chair and stroked my right shoulder in a languid gesture that looked like I was removing some dandruff, but is actually the way I discuss the cut of a new coat with my tailor. Talking to people as if they were your tailor tends to establish a useful working *status quo*, especially if you talk to them as though they were a tailor who had made your trousers two inches too short.

I have always made it clear I found nothing wrong in flogging pretty much anything in the way of machine tools to Saddam. I did protest, mid-morning, that "I would never want to export lethal equipment" to the greasy dictator. But, fortified by lunch, when Scott asked whether a pricey "dual-use" machine tool was more likely to be used to make arms than non-military goods, I told him: "I would have thought that was self-evident. There's no purpose in making an investment of that scale, if you're going to make saucepans with it."

Happily, both Scott and Baxendale had twigged, by mid-afternoon, that the picture-less, pink walls of the enquiry room were beginning to oppress me, while spending all day being stared at by members of the public was just depressing. Hoping to sate their appetites for the day, I tossed them a few insights into the principles of government — such as "I regarded the guidelines [on arms sales to Iraq] as so imprecise, and so obviously drafted with the object of elsticity, as to make them fair game"; and that it's best to have a fuss over something controversial, like relaxing the guidelines, and get it over with, because "once you've had a row and it's blown out, you need a blowtorch to get it alight again, in parliamentary terms". I was relieved when Scott took the hint and adjourned at tea-time.

All in all, not a bad showing. Certainly more relaxed than *La Grande Dame*, who was twitchy in the hot seat last week, statelier than Mellor's obsequious performance, and less panicky than Waldegrave (odd for an Eton man!). "I certainly don't want to land former colleagues in it, Mr Waldegrave least of all," I announced rather grandly yesterday, surprising even myself.

I may throw a few more snippets over the next two days to the husks in the press seats, but I'll save the juciest indiscretions for my second volume of diaries and trouser the royalties myself. Surely everyone must know how much it costs to fix the lead guttering above the music room at Saltwood. The general public do have music rooms, don't they?

Waldegrave 'in Wonderland' Clark tells enquiry

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM Waldegrave was in an "Alice in Wonderland situation" if he believed there had been no change in the arms export guidelines because it had not been announced, Alan Clark, the former trade and defence minister, said yesterday.

In an unprecedented rebuttal of the evidence given to Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair by Mr Waldegrave in September, Mr Clark said that there had been a change in the arms export guidelines; the change was slight but significant, and it should have been announced to Parliament.

Moreover, Baroness Thatcher had been informed of the change in policy, despite her claims in her evidence to the enquiry last week that she had never been officially notified of the change, Mr Clark said.

Mr Clark told Lord Justice Scott that the revised arms export guidelines had never been formally promulgated by ministers, although they had been put into effect by the Whitehall officials who were responsible for vetting export licence applications.

Mr Clark, the former trade minister, said that the decision to revise the 1985 Howe arms export guidelines was taken in December 1988 — five months after the Iran-Iraq ceasefire — during a meeting between himself, Mr Waldegrave, the former Foreign Office Minister, and Lord Trefgarne, the former Defence Minister.

Mr Clark characterised Mr Waldegrave's argument for not informing Parliament of the change in policy as "a slightly Alice in Wonderland situation where I remember Mr Waldegrave was saying because something hadn't been announced it hadn't happened". Mr Waldegrave had told the enquiry that there had been no change in policy, only a new interpretation of the existing guidelines.

> 'The House of Commons is a very volatile place. They are a bit of a nuisance'

Describing his role as trade and industry minister, Mr Clark said it was his duty to push for the greatest amount of arms exports as possible, so long as national security was not threatened. The guidelines were not a strict statement of Government policy because "they were not backed by secondary legislation or Orders in Council".

Mr Clark told Lord Justice Scott that the guidelines were "a kind of packaging you could wrap around different decisions" to justify whatever conclusion had been arrived at. He added: "I regarded the guidelines as being so imprecise and so obviously drafted with the objective of elasticity as to make them fair game."

Asked by Lord Justice Scott to account for the Government's reluctance to inform Parliament of the change in the arms export guidelines, Mr Clark said that ministers and officials were generally reluctant to "stir up MPs" at a time when there was growing parliamentary and public concern over Saddam Hussein's use of chemical weapons against the Kurds.

Mr Clark said: "The House of Commons is a very volatile place. They are a bit of a nuisance." There was "a quasi-confrontational" relationship between the Government and Parliament. While it was incumbent on ministers to tell the truth to MPs, it was not the Government's responsibility to do their work for them. "You must never lie," he said. "If you do lie and get caught out, your resignation has to follow. But you can't do all their work for them." It was not our job "to spoonfeed MPs", he said.

Mr Clark said that the revised guidelines should at least have been set out in a written answer to a parliamentary question. However, he insisted that MPs were given a hint by a new form of words given in answer to questions about the guidelines which said that they were "under review in the light of changing circumstances". An MP who was given the new form of wording was told that the guidelines were kept under review. "What does that mean he should ask himself," Mr Clark said.

He told the enquiry that the Foreign Office had the primary responsibility within Whitehall for the guidelines, as they had been announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former Foreign Secretary. But the Foreign Office was particularly sensitive to public criticism, and for that reason the decision to relax the guidelines was not made public, Mr Clark said.

Mr Clark conceded, however, that he had been "pretty close to the edge" when he replied to a letter from the Swindon Joint Pacifist Association arguing that Britain should not participate in the Baghdad international arms fair. "Those people bring out the worst in me. I wanted to tweak their tail," he said.

Mr Clark described the 1985 Howe guidelines as "a brilliant piece of drafting". They enabled Britain to adopt a high moral tone while at the same time giving ministers the freedom of action to justify almost any decision they chose to take on exports to Iraq. The guidelines were drawn up "in as elastic as possible a way as the English language would tolerate," he said.



Alan Clark, one of the ministers most closely involved in the arms-to-Iraq affair, giving evidence to Lord Justice Scott's enquiry yesterday

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★ Including two special bonuses	6.90	–	–	–	6.90	–	–	–	–	–
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£50,000+	6.65	–	4.99	–	6.50	–	6.45	–	4.84	–
£25,000+	6.40	–	4.80	–	6.25	–	6.20	–	4.65	–
£10,000+	6.00	–	4.50	–	5.85	–	6.00	–	4.50	–
Monthly Income Option (Including Bonus)										
£100,000+	6.40	–	4.80	–	6.20	–	6.20	–	4.65	–
£50,000+	6.25	–	4.69	–	6.05	–	6.05	–	4.54	–
£25,000+	6.05	–	4.54	–	5.85	–	5.85	–	4.39	–
£10,000+	5.65	–	4.24	–	5.45	–	5.65	–	4.24	–
90 DAY XTRA										
£50,000+	5.70	5.78	4.28	4.33	4.80	4.86	5.50	5.58	4.13	4.17
£25,000+	5.40	5.47	4.05	4.09	4.60	4.65	5.20	5.27	3 90	3.94
£10,000+	5.00	5.06	3.75	3.79	4.40	4.45	5.00	5.06	3.75	3.79
£5,000+	4.25	4.30	3.19	3.22	4.05	4.09	4.25	4.30	3.19	3.22
£500+	4.00	4.04	3.00	3.02	3.90	3.94	4.00	4.04	3.00	3.02
Monthly Income Option										
£50,000+	5.35	5.48	4.01	4.08	4.50	4.59	5.15	5.27	3.86	3.93
£25,000+	5.05	5.17	3.79	3.86	4.30	4.39	4.85	4.96	3.64	3.70
£10,000+	4.70	4.80	3.53	3.59	4.20	4.28	4.70	4.80	3.53	3.59
£5,000+	4.00	4.07	3 00	3.04	3.75	3.82	4.00	4.07	3.00	3.04
£500+	3.75	3.82	2.81	2.85	3.65	3.71	3.75	3.82	2.81	2.85
INSTANT XTRA PLUS										
£25,000+	5.00	–	3.75	–	4.65	–	4.75	–	3.56	–
£10,000+	4.50	–	3.38	–	4.15	–	4.50	–	3.38	–
£5,000+	4.05	–	3.04	–	3.75	–	4.05	–	3.04	–
£2,500+	3.85	–	2.89	–	3.60	–	3.85	–	2.89	–
£500+	3.60	–	2.70	–	3.35	–	3.60	–	2.70	–
YOUNG SAVERS (Minimum rates for under 21s on most accounts)	3.75	3.79	2.81	2.83	3.75	3.79	–	–	–	–
MAXIM										
£2,000+	1.50	1.51	1.13	1.14	–	–	–	–	–	–
£50+	0.75	0.75	0.56	0.56	–	–	–	–	–	–
CARDCASH										
£50+	0.75	0.75	0.56	0.56	0.75	0.75	–	–	–	–
PAID-UP SHARE										
£50+	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75
DEPOSIT										
£50+	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75
MATURED GUARANTEED RESERVE										
£10,000+	4.60	–	3.45	–	4.60	–	4.60	–	3.45	–
£2,000+	3.95	–	2.96	–	3.95	–	3.95	–	2.96	–
Monthly Income										
£10,000+	4.53	–	3.40	–	4.53	–	4.53	–	3 40	–
£2,000+	3.86	–	2.90	–	3.86	–	3.86	–	2.90	–
CLOSED ISSUES										
Instant Xtra										
£10,000+	3.50	–	2.63	–	3.50	–	–	–	–	–
£5,000+	3.00	–	2.25	–	3.00	–	–	–	–	–
£2,000+	2.75	–	2.06	–	2.75	–	–	–	–	–
£500+	2.25	–	1.69	–	2.25	–	–	–	–	–
Monthly Savings	1.25	1.25	0.94	0.94	1.25	1.25	–	–	–	–
7 Day Xtra	1.55	1.56	1.16	1.16	1.55	1.56	–	–	–	–
28 Day Xtra	1.90	1.91	1.43	1 44	1.90	1.91	–	–	–	–
Special Investment Account (1st Issue)	3.00	3.02	2.25	2.26	3.00	3.02	–	–	–	–
Special Investment Account (2nd Issue)	2.50	2.52	1.88	1.89	2.50	2.52	–	–	–	–
5 Year Term Share	3.00	3.02	2.25	2.26	3.00	3.02	–	–	–	–
Subscripuon Share	1.25	1.25	0.94	0.94	1.25	1.25	–	–	–	–
Matured Subscripion Share	1.25	1.25	0.94	0.94	1.25	1.25	–	–	–	–

Halifax Building Society announces new rates for investors and banking customers from 15th December 1993.

NON-PERSONAL RATES. Please note that Premium Xtra and 90 Day Xtra non-personal accounts are no longer available to new customers.

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PREMIUM XTRA. :Rates include a 0.25°₀ gross p.a. (0.19°₀ net p.a.) anniversary bonus added if you do not make any withdrawals during the preceding 12 month period.

CLOSED ISSUES. Customers with accounts which are no longer available to new investors may close these accounts to transfer funds without penalty into any Halifax account.

MORTGAGES. With effect from 6th December 1993 for applicants and from 1st January 1994 for existing borrowers, the Society's mortgage base rate is reduced to 7.64°₀ p.a.

POINTS TO NOTE. Interest will be paid net of basic rate income tax (currently 25°₀) or gross on the receipt of the required declaration form. Net rates are illustrative only and have been rounded. All interest rates quoted are variable. Accounts with balances below £50 will not receive interest except where customers are aged under 21 and recorded as such. This exemption also applies to Maxim accounts held by students who are recorded as such irrespective of age. *Compounded annual rates (C.A.R.) apply when full interest remains in the account. †The non-resident rates of interest are payable to individuals who are not ordinarily resident in the UK and on receipt of an appropriate declaration form. Full terms and conditions together with details of when interest is paid are available from any Halifax branch.

Trinity Road, Halifax 14th December 1993

HALIFAX

Irish cliff-hanger heads inevitably to its logical end

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Forget the cliff-hanging. John Major and Albert Reynolds will produce a declaration on Northern Ireland. But, important though this document will be, it will not solve anything. The tricky stage will only start then.

Mr Major and Mr Reynolds have been lowering expectations in the past few days. Prime ministers always say, as Mr Major did yesterday, that they are "more concerned with getting the declaration right than necessarily getting it in a particularly short time".

Difficult though the negotiations over the wording of the declaration have been, they are almost doomed to succeed. Both prime ministers have too much invested in the initiative to allow it to fail now. They must be seen to be trying, even if the attempt later founders.

The drafting involves a dance around familiar irreconcilables, the goal of Irish unity and continuing Unionist resistance. The same dilemma was faced by the Heath administration. Addressing the Lord Mayor's banquet on November 15, 1971, Sir Edward Heath accepted the legitimacy of reunification as a political goal: "If at some future date the majority of the people in Northern Ireland want unification and express that desire in the appropriate manner, I do not believe any British Government would stand in their way," Sir Edward said.

Just as no British Government could realistically stop unification if there was a Catholic and nationalist majority, so the Unionists are not going to be forced to join with the republic if a majority remains opposed. Despite the ingrained Unionist belief in betrayal by the British, there is no evidence that Mr Major has any such intention.

Mr Major is not a free agent. But he has safeguarded his political position. The Cabinet has held lengthy discussions on the issue at its Thursday meetings. While it has given authority to the seven-strong ministerial committee on Northern Ireland to take decisions on the talks with Dublin, Mr Major has kept the full Cabinet informed at each stage. He did the same over Maastricht to ensure that everyone was committed to the policy.

Most ministers are sceptically loyal. They believe it is right to try, are willing to leave the initiative up to him, and wish him well. But they are privately not over-optimistic and are ever-conscious of the need to keep James Molyneaux, leader of the Ulster Unionist party, on board.

Not only will Mr Molyneaux's attitude affect that of many Tory MPs, but the Unionists' votes could keep the Conservatives in office.

As significant as the precise wording is the way that Mr Major, like Mr Reynolds, is now talking about linking the declaration to a permanent end to violence. It is now very much the peace initiative it is described in headlines. Many points are likely to be fudged and left to later talks. The declaration is now being presented separately from the Northern Ireland Office's discussions with the constitutional parties in the province about reviving local democracy.

All depends on whether the IRA means what it said in its disputed message of February that "the conflict is over". If it does, or rather a sufficient number of its leaders do, then the wording in the declaration is a secondary matter, a cloak to justify an end to its murders. If there is still no real desire for peace, the declaration will be irrelevant.

That has been the tantalising prospect for the past ten months which has convinced Mr Major that it is worth pursuing the current initiative. Even if it is a slim chance, most MPs believe that it is still one worth taking.

PETER RIDDELL

MPs fall victim to guerrilla warfare in the Commons

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JILL SHERMAN

A PARLIAMENTARY visit to the Falkland Islands was called off at short notice last night, the first casualty of Labour's declaration of guerrilla war in the Commons.

Two Tory and two Labour MPs had been due to spend five days in the South Atlantic on a goodwill visit organised by the Falkland Islands government. But after John Smith's decision to suspend co-operation with the Government in protest at its "arrogant and oppressive" management of Commons business, the trip was cancelled by Labour whips only hours before the MPs were to fly out.

The Tories, Rod Richards, MP for Clywd North West, and James Paice, MP for Cambridgeshire South East, denounced the move. Mr Richards said it would be a big blow for their hosts. "This shows how childish Labour is. They cannot distinguish between making life difficult for the Conservative Party and upsetting the Falkland Islands."

Eddie O'Hara, MP for Knowsley South, and Jimmy Hood, MP for Clydesdale, were the two Labour MPs who were grounded.

Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary, has had to cancel a trip to Strasbourg this week, because of Labour's move.

Labour has postponed until after Christmas the main offensive. Senior party sources indicated yesterday that with the Government operating a series of three-line whips this week, there would be little scope to disrupt Commons business. However, they did not rule out more "unofficial action" of the kind that halted a debate on business and industry on Friday.

Labour's failure to launch an all-out assault yesterday was a cause of quiet self-congratulation among the Government whips. They said that their decision to require all their backbenchers to be on parade this week had stymied the campaign. Senior Tories also claimed that there was much "moaning and groaning" among Labour MPs over the decision to suspend pairing — the arrangement by which MPs from opposing parties are allowed to absent themselves from votes.

Government whips believe that the threats of prolonged disruption in the Commons will be quietly forgotten when the House comes back on January 11, after the Christmas recess. But senior Labour officials insisted last night that their campaign would only then get under way.

Today's guillotine motion restricting debate on two controversial social security bills — on sick pay and increased national insurance contributions — to tomorrow and Thursday will be marked by bitter Labour protests about an alleged abuse of Commons procedures. But with Tories present in force and no sign of a backbench revolt, ministers should carry the day.

The danger for the Government will come in January when Tory MPs are more lightly whipped and ministers face the threat of votes called at short notice.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: education; prime minister. Timetable motions on Social Security (Contributions) Bill and Statutory Sick Pay Bill.
Lords (2.30): Local Government (Wales) Bill, second reading.

THE TIMES
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One child in 12 suffers serious language problems

By Ruth Gledhill



■ The Times Christmas appeal aims to help children with language difficulties — a category now twice as large as once thought

THE number of children with serious language difficulties could be double previous estimates, according to early results of research at Cambridge University. A study of three-year-olds within Cambridgeshire health authority found one in 12 had "potentially significant problems".

Until now, charities have worked on the basis that half a million children in the UK, or one in 20, have a speech or language impairment which is not caused by physical or intellectual disability.

The research, funded by British Telecom and supported by the Association For All Speech Impaired Children (Afasic), found a strong relationship between language and behavioural disorders: the more serious the language difficulty, the more problems with the child's behaviour.

Of nearly 2,000 families who responded to the postal survey of every family with a three-year-old child in the area, about one quarter had a child with some speech or language difficulties. Most who failed to reply said later that it was because they believed their child had no difficulties.

In their initial analysis, Professor Ian Goodyer, research director, and Dr Vivan Burden, research co-ordinator, found that 7.6 per cent of all respondents had potentially significant language problems: "This preliminary evidence of prevalence, the result of surveying an entire population, is double the commonly accepted figure based on smaller samples."

It showed the need for more studies of the problems which affect boys such as Christopher Washtell, 5. He has difficulty expressing himself, although his understanding of language has grown since he arrived at the Globe primary school in east London.

Unlike many children with language disorders, his behaviour has remained good. His teacher, Kathy Conway, of the language impairment unit, said although he often tried to speak, he simply could not make himself understood.

With the help of the Paget Gorman sign language, a system for children such as Christopher, he is learning to string sentences together and pronounce words correctly.

Ms Conway said: "He had difficulty with articulation, with making certain sounds. Since he has been in a small group, his understanding of language has grown to within what we would expect for a child of his age and we are now focusing on his speech."

The Times is appealing for funds for Afasic to support similar research to that at Cambridge, as well as to purchase equipment, help parents and lobby on behalf of children with language and speech difficulties.

Norma Corkish, Afasic director, said: "Communication is very vital but so many people do not see it as a major area of difficulty."

Helen Sant, financial resources manager, said: "It is easy to take speech for granted, as something that is picked up naturally in childhood. After all, how many people can remember not being able to speak?"



MICHAEL POWELL

Five-year-old Christopher Washtell learns sign language in a special unit at his school to help him to overcome his difficulties with articulation

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Value £..... Cheque number

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Postmen to strike

The Christmas postal service in Oxfordshire could be disrupted after workers voted for an indefinite strike.

Members of the Union of Communication Workers in Oxfordshire voted by 529 to 387 to take action, and will walk out on Thursday. They are angry that they will not be paid for Christmas Day and will not know their working hours in advance. They are the only postal staff to have taken the strike vote.

Body contours

Ordnance Survey cartographers are claiming royalties from the producers of a soft-porn film because the video cover features one of their 1:50,000 scale maps.

Polluter pays

Wessex Water has been fined £1,200 with £740 costs by Yeovil magistrates for polluting a brook at Chard, Somerset, with raw sewage.

Bosnia Blobby

Thousands of Mr Blobby toys rescued from a fire in Southend, Essex, will be sent to children in Bosnia.

Budgies stolen

Thieves have stolen 12 budgerigars worth £300,000 from Stowmarket, Suffolk.

Vocational A levels 'a disaster'

By Ben Preston

NEW vocational qualifications which ministers expect six out of ten school-leavers to take within three years are a "disaster of epic proportions", an independent report said yesterday.

The study, by Professor Alan Smithers, a former government adviser, says the new courses are lightweight, riddled with ideology and neglect basic literacy and numeracy. It argues they will depress standards and widen the skills gap with countries such as France and Germany.

***All Our Futures — Britain's Education Revolution*, commissioned by Channel 4's *Dispatches* programme, says that National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs), for jobs such as plumbing or hairdressing, and General National Vocational Qualifications (GNVQs) for broader occupational areas such as catering or business, have sacrificed rigour for flexibility.**

About 70,000 students started studying GNVQs — dubbed "vocational A levels" by John Patten, the education secretary — in September.

John Hillier, chief executive of the National Council for Vocational Qualifications, rejected the report's findings as out of date. He said that GNVQs were being improved as they came on stream and were fit for their purpose.

Starlings send the RAF home to roost

By Tim Reid

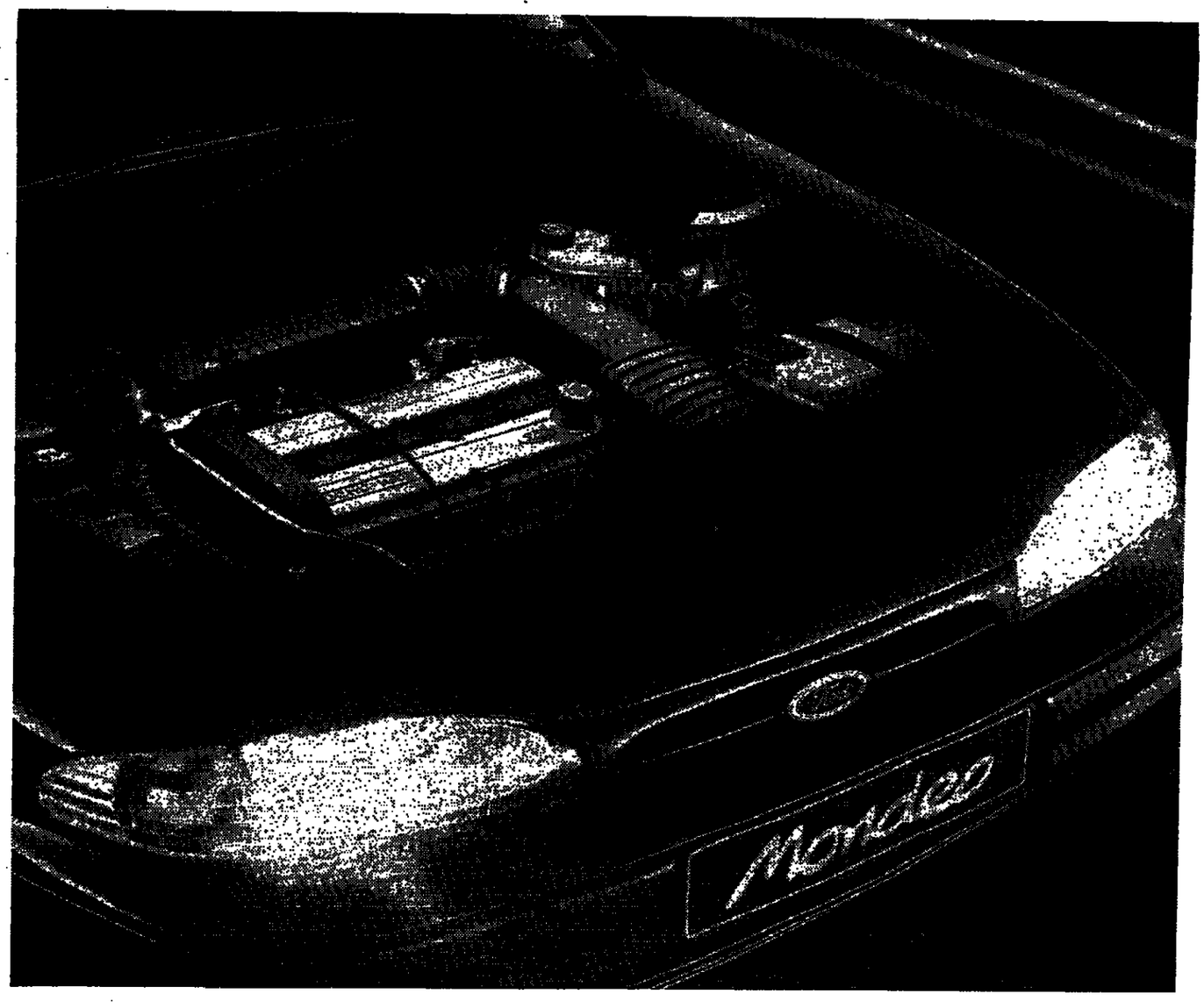
THE residents of a Lincolnshire village, plagued by thousands of noisy migrating starlings for the fourth successive winter, are appealing for help after local experts and the Royal Air Force failed to remove them.

The failure of homespun methods, ranging from banging dustbin lids to exploding bird-scarers, led Sedgebrook's local councillors to call for more experienced assistance. If the birds are not persuaded to move on they will roost until February.

Early efforts by a bird expert from RAF Cranwell seemed promising. He broadcast starling distress calls through loudspeakers and the birds flew off. But *Sturnus vulgarus* is nothing if not determined and within hours they were back in full song. The RAF departed.

Doug Fenton, a parish councillor, said: "The birds are winning, but we're not giving up. The mess they make and the noise is incredible. We would welcome any suggestions, but not the silly ideas we've received in the past like shooting them with a porridge gun or playing loud rock music."

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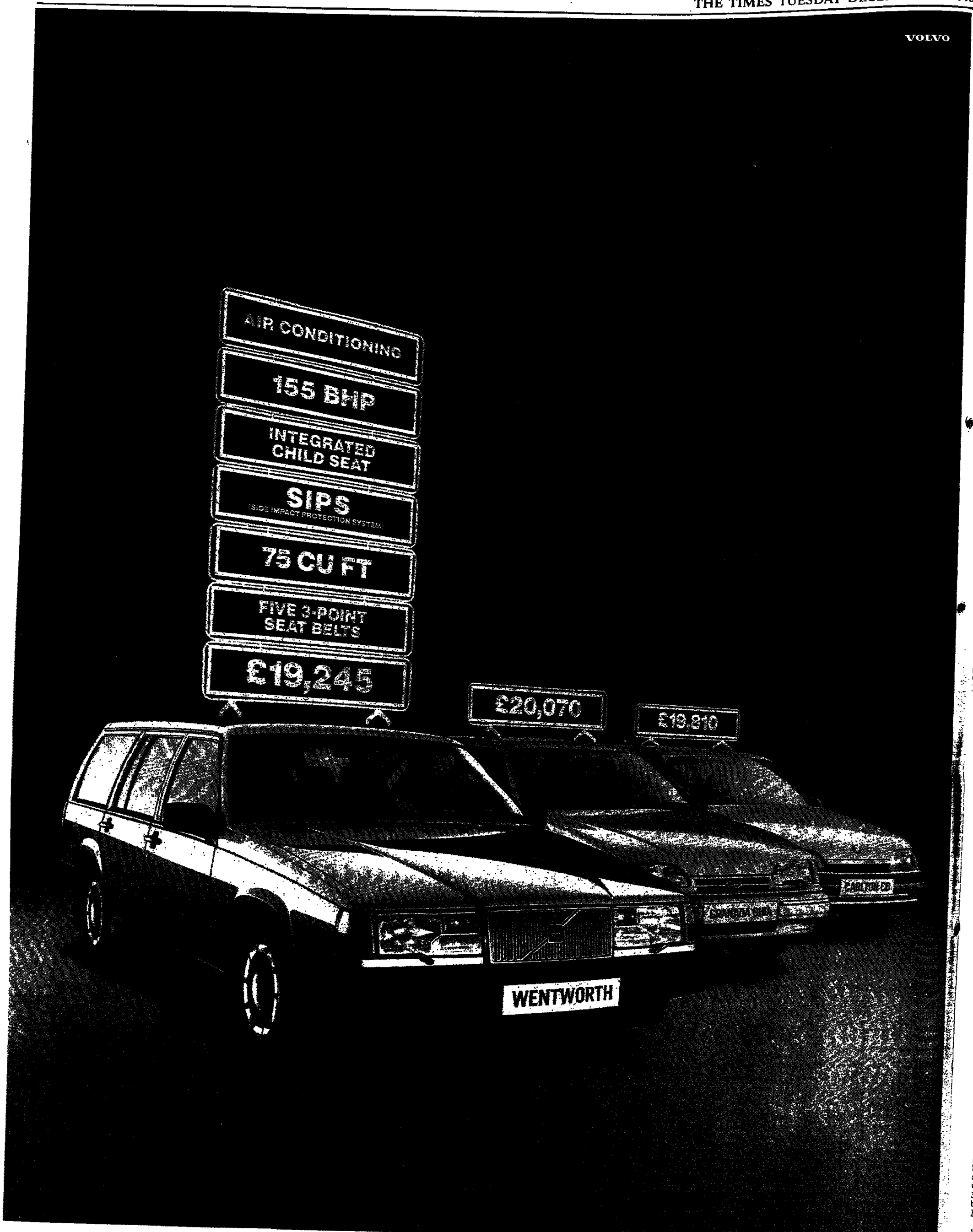
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هكذا من الأصل

Heavy traffic drives up the level of ill health

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

PEOPLE living near busy roads are more likely to experience ill-health, a British study has shown. Headaches, sore throats, breathlessness and tired and aching eyes are all more common among those who live close to heavy traffic.

The two-year Lancaster University project involved 1,000 households in ten cities in northern England and Scotland. Each family answered questions about their health, and the results were compared with measurements of the traffic on the roads outside their house.

Houses close to other sources of pollution, such as factories, were eliminated from the study, and possible confounding factors such as smoking, employment and income were taken into account.

The symptoms most frequently reported were headaches and lack of energy, but the survey also uncovered coughs and breathing difficulties, red and itching eyes, and sore throats.

Dr John Whitelegg, director of the environmental epidemiology unit at the university when the study was carried out, said that the probability of any household member reporting headaches and lack of energy in the seven days was 0.51 if the volume of traffic was 5,000 vehicles a day. The probability increased by 17 per cent to 0.68 if there were 50,000 vehicles a day. Similar increases in line with traffic volumes were shown for coughs and breathing difficulties (up 14 per cent), red and itchy eyes (up 12 per cent) and sore throat (up 10 per cent).

Seventy per cent of the British population lives in cities, and millions are exposed to traffic volumes of greater than 10,000 vehicles a day.

Dr Whitelegg said the cause could be due to traffic emissions, or even noise. "Other people have found that elderly people or those with young children who live near busy roads suffer from a simple fear of traffic, which might increase their tendency to complain about ill-health. Our results might be a combination of all three factors."

Evidence of the effects of traffic on health is growing. Government-commissioned reports due to be published soon are expected to focus on particulate emissions from diesel vehicles, which are rising rapidly and which have been linked with asthma and other respiratory diseases. Robert Davies, professor of respiratory medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, said there were more cases of early death, lung disease and cardiovascular problems, as well as more hospital admissions for asthma, in cities with higher levels of emissions of small particles.

MICHAEL POWELL



Porter Scott Bradley with his first customer



War or no war, the British saw no need to ration the luxury of a station porter — here at Paddington in 1942

BR porters return with bags of style

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

UNIFORMED porters have made a comeback at Euston station after an absence of more than 25 years to take the strain out of modern train travel.

British Rail, still apparently unable to find a trolley with co-ordinated wheels, has reverted to traditional tactics. Twelve porters, nicknamed Blue Coats after their distinctive jackets, worn with brass buttons, epaulettes and bow ties, have been posted around the station. Tipping has been replaced by a fixed charge of £2.

On hand to help launch the service was Trevor Harrison, 36, the actor who plays Eddie Grundy in Radio 4's *The Archers*. Fact and fiction blurred as "Eddie", who has a penchant for winning competitions, was invited to attend yesterday's porter launch after supposedly winning a first-class InterCity trip to London. "The porter put me to shame," said Eddie/Trevor. "He was very smart and I came off the train in my jeans ready for the milking." Would Trevor Harrison fork out £2 for the privilege? "Probably. You do feel you're getting a personal service. I'm a bit of a traditionalist."

The porters are trained in customer care, baggage lifting and the geography of the west coast routes. "I think we'll catch on," said one, who declined to be named. "People seem quite surprised but they are pleased to see us." A poll of five customers found four "very satisfied" with the porters.

Building by numbers 'ruining countryside'

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

NEW housing estates are proving such a blot on the landscape that the Countryside Commission is planning to extend its influence to cover the design of buildings for the first time.

In a report to be published on Monday, the quango charged with advising the Government on the countryside sketches out guidelines it hopes will help stem the growth of "identikit" housing that is beginning to make villages from the gritstone north to the soft southwest look identical.

David Brooke, the commission's senior planning officer, said: "We are trying to identify elements of good design that people can understand before they get round to designing new buildings.

"The proposals show the need for far more harmony between buildings, the villages they sit in and the landscape around them, a principle that the commission holds dear. There's plenty of good design about but it often doesn't fit its landscape. We need to retain regional identity by using traditional materials and shapes so that Yorkshire looks like Yorkshire, Somerset like Somerset."

The commission has also hired BDOR, Bristol environmental consultants, to carry out detailed studies of three villages: Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, Cartmel, Cumbria, and Down Ampney, Gloucestershire.

"We're testing ideas for understanding what makes a village tick in design terms. Once there's a common language about what's good and bad, it's much easier to make good decisions. The answer is to look at past styles and pick out key elements that have strong links with the past which can be incorporated in new designs," said Mr Brooke.

☐ *Design in the Countryside* (The Countryside Commission, PO Box 124, Walgrave, Northampton, NN6 9TL; £3).

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

New ratings

FIDE, the World Chess Federation, has announced new ratings in its twice-yearly list, omitting Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short. Kasparov, after his championship match against Short in London, would have been clear first on 2800 points: Short would have been the best British player on 2680.

Fide's top rankings are: Anatoly Karpov 2740; Vishy Anand 2715; Vassily Ivanchuk 2710; Alexei Shirov 2705; Gata Kamsky 2695; Valery Salov, Evgeny Bareev and Boris Gelfand on 2685.

The top British players are Michael Adams 2660; Jonathan Speelman 2605; John Nunn 2605; Tony Miles 2590; Julian Hodgson 2570; Murray Chandler 2565; Matthew Sadler 2560; and Mark Hebden 2530.

Belgrade

Grandmaster Alexander Beliavsky from the Ukraine has stormed into the lead in the Investbanka tournament in Belgrade. A notable victory was against the early leader, Evgeny Bareev.

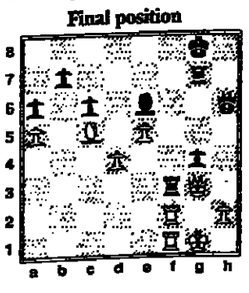
In the final position after 39 Rxf3 gxf3, white would lose his queen. Alternatively, 39 Qg2 Bd5 leaves white facing insuperable threats.

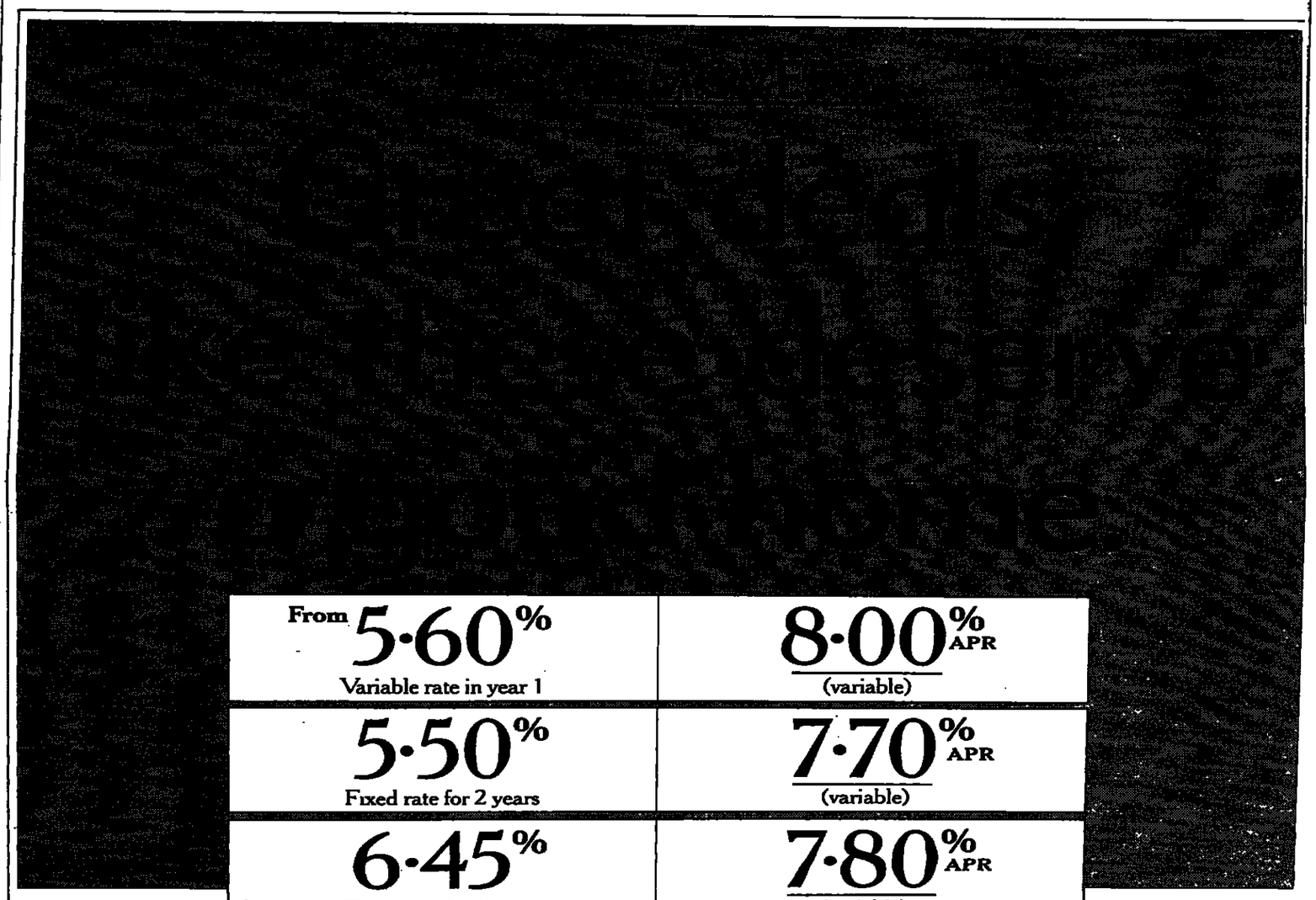
White: Evgeny Bareev
Black: Alexander Beliavsky
Belgrade, December 1993
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	Qc2	d5
5	cxd5	exd5
6	Nf3	Ne4
7	a3	c8
8	Bd3	f5
9	0-0	Nd7
10	Ne1	Qa5
11	a3	Bxc3
12	bxc3	Nb6
13	f3	Nd6
14	e4	Nbc4
15	e4	0-0
16	e5	Nb5
17	Rf2	Nxd4
18	cxd4	Qxe1+
19	Bf1	f4
20	Re2	Qb4
21	Rb1	Qe7
22	Qc3	Be6
23	Ra2	Rf7
24	a5	Rd8
25	Bxc4	dxc4
26	Ba3	Qe8
27	Bc5	a6
28	Reb2	Rdd7
29	Re1	g5
30	Rb4	Rg7
31	Rxc4	h5
32	Rb4	Qg8
33	Rb2	g4
34	fxg4	hxg4
35	Rf2	Rdf7
36	Ref1	Qh6
37	g3	fxg3
38	Qxg3	Rf3

White resigns

Final position





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Typical Example: Assumes a variable rate of 5.6% in year 1 and a variable rate of 7.6% thereafter. A couple (male and female), non-smokers, aged 25, applying for a £60,000 endowment mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £100,000. Monthly payment £245.00 in year 1 and £332.50 thereafter all net of income tax at the basic rate. APR 8.0% (variable). Total Amount Payable (TAP) £176526. A typical monthly endowment premium £86 (variable). 300 mortgage and endowment payments. Interest charges, capital repayments, Solicitor's mortgage costs £100 (assumes same Solicitor acts for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fees of £67 and Room Cover buildings premiums for 25 years (an example of an average Room Cover buildings monthly premium would be £11.38) are included in the TAP indicated. New rates effective for existing borrowers 1st January 1994. Only the first application fee is free, any subsequent applications will be subject to the normal fee. The maximum advance is 60% of the purchase price or valuation whichever is the lower. Payments must be made by Direct Debit for the term of the discount. All mortgages are subject to appraisal of an applicant's financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under 18 years of age. All loans for wholly or partial business purposes do not qualify for this offer. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Nationwide Building Society is an Appointed Representative of Guardian Royal Exchange marketing group (members of which are Members of Lautro and IMRO) only for the purposes of advising on and selling life assurance, pension, unit trust and personal equity plan products issued by Guardian Royal Exchange. MPC is underwritten by Guardian Royal Exchange. Written quotations available on request from Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon L, SN38 1NW. Nationwide is a member of the Building Societies Ombudsmen Scheme and conforms to the Code of Banking Practice.

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Rabin warns of extended delay to peace accord

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

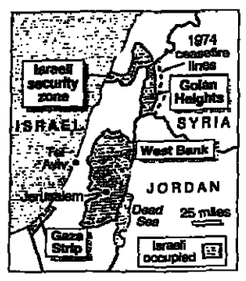
■ The passing of the deadline for starting an Israeli withdrawal has cast gloom over the occupied territories. Yitzhak Rabin seems more determined than ever not to compromise

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, cast further doubt on the prospects for an early agreement between Israel and the PLO yesterday when he gave a warning that the present ten-day postponement was not long enough for the two sides to settle their differences.

On the day when the first Israeli troops were supposed to begin their withdrawal from the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, the path to peace appeared a longer, harder and more painful journey than most Israelis and Palestinians had imagined. Residents in the occupied territories appeared despondent and angry at the failure of Mr Rabin and Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, to settle their differences, or at the very least to come up with a face-saving gesture for yesterday's deadline, such as a prisoner release.

Commercial strikes, called for by militant Islamic opponents of the peace process, were widely respected in the West Bank, and even the office of Mr Arafat's own Fatah group locked its doors in Jericho, leaving a hand-written sign which read: "In protest at the lack of Israeli credibility in implementing the agreement."

On the Israeli side, government ministers appeared defensive over the rising doubts about the viability of the peace accord signed on September 13, and Mr Arafat's failing credibility among his own people. The general atmosphere of gloom was further



deepened by remarks attributed to Mr Rabin, who briefed Israeli journalists on his inconclusive 90-minute meeting with the PLO leader on Sunday.

Speaking in Jerusalem, Mr Rabin seemed more determined than ever not to make any compromises to the Palestinian side which might jeopardise security for Israel and the Jewish settlers living in the occupied territories.

"Whoever thinks that in the next ten days an agreement will be concluded between Israel and the PLO does not know what is being talked about," Mr Rabin was quoted as telling Israeli diplomatic correspondents. "In the ten days perhaps matters of principle will be completed. Afterwards it will be necessary to formulate the agreement."

Even Shimon Peres, Israel's Foreign Minister and the ever-optimistic architect of the peace accord, conceded that the talks had reached crisis point. "It is a serious crisis ... it is not the first, it is not the last," he said. "Negotiations are in a way a chain of crises that you have to overcome."

Although he suggested an element of brinkmanship is inevitable in Middle East negotiations, it is still a matter of great concern that Mr Rabin and Mr Arafat were unable to reach even the smallest compromise or gesture during their encounter. Today Israeli and Palestinian negotiators are due to resume their dialogue in the Egyptian resort of el-Arish on the transfer of civilian authority and in Paris on economic co-operation.

However, there appear to be no provisions for settling the outstanding differences, namely who controls the frontier crossing points into the future Palestinian autonomous areas.

Ahmad Tibi, an Israeli Arab often used by Mr Arafat as an intermediary with the Israelis, concluded that the two sides remained "poles apart" and that a third party might be needed to bring the two sides together.

Predictably the setback was warmly welcomed by ultra-nationalists and religious fundamentalists on both sides, who have spent the past three months doing their best to undermine the deal.



Following Yassir Arafat's failure to secure any guarantees from Israel, senior PLO officials are talking of his replacement by a "collective leadership"

Arafat's support dwindles with his loss of face

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

YASSIR Arafat begins what should have been a triumphal visit to London today with his credibility among his scattered people at its lowest point in his career.

The PLO chief, 64, is faced with the prospect that his biggest gamble on achieving peace with Israel will backfire. "Can a warrior negotiate as he surrenders?", one of his critics asked, reflecting the conviction growing among Palestinian moderates that Israel is dictating terms.

Mr Arafat could do nothing in Cairo on Sunday in front of the world's press to disguise his crushing disappointment at failing to convince Israel to begin even a limited withdrawal from Jericho and Gaza on the date originally agreed. The hastily patched up compromise of a minimum ten-day delay was the more difficult for him to accept because it confirmed the taunts of his radical enemies and contained no Israeli guarantees.

"The credibility of Arafat has suffered. He said this date (December 13) was sacred", Haidar Abdel-Shafi, the respected former chief negotiator of the Palestinian team in Washington, said yesterday in Gaza after the third Arab in 24 hours had died in the continuing violence. "The fact that the Israelis were not prepared to hold even a cosmetic withdrawal and help Arafat only shows that Israel was determined all along to have its own way."

The PLO leader has frequently used his flowery rhetoric to paper over such difficulties. But yesterday in The Hague, even that had escaped him as he admitted to journalists: "Definitely there are serious problems: otherwise, why the delay for ten days?"

The failure to mark the deadline will increase the challenge to his leadership. Although there is no obvious successor, there is growing support at PLO headquarters in Tunis for his replacement by a collective leadership. Among the criticisms heaped on him recently have been his obsessive secrecy, a reliance on corrupt cronies rather than younger technocrats, a refusal to delegate and continuing financial mismanagement which is discouraging donors and jeopardising development aid.

Mr Arafat's critics are threatening to summon an emergency session of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, to challenge his leadership unless there is rapid reform, notably democratisation of the PLO bureaucracy.

"The old mentality of leading a revolution can no longer be accepted at this stage and we cannot risk losing this historic opportunity of building our state by leaving Arafat to work haphazardly and without planning," a PLO official said.

A flurry of secret diplomacy is planned before Mr Arafat's next summit with Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister, next week. But even if it succeeds in securing a date for the start of the Israeli pullback, many Palestinians will remain convinced that the PLO leader has miscalculated.

Aphrodisiac of power proves turn-off for Clinton candidates

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

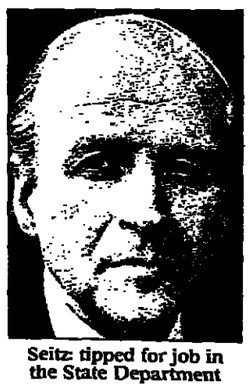
POWER, prestige and perks — once upon a time these three "Ps" had America's best brains flocking to join new administrations, but not any more. President Clinton is struggling to find good people willing to fill top jobs.

Michael Armacost, former ambassador to Japan, is said to have twice refused to fill the job of Deputy Secretary of State left vacant by Clifton Wharton's recent dismissal. Among over half a dozen names suggested for the job is that of Raymond Seitz, the highly respected US Ambassador in London, who is due to end his London assignment next year.

Six months after Mr Clinton jettisoned Lani Guinier's nomination to head of the Justice Department's civil rights division, no replacement has been announced. Half a dozen candidates were approached before Kristine Gebbie was persuaded to take the job of White House "Aids czar".

Kirk O'Donnell, a former House aide, has refused to replace the departing Howard Paster as the White House congressional lobbyist. Harold Ickes, a New York lawyer, has been offered the vital job of "selling" the Clintons' health care reforms, but is mulling over the consequences for his family and firm. So the list goes on.

After nearly a year in power Mr Clinton has filled only 465 of his administration's top 957 jobs, with another 153 nominees awaiting confirmation. Justice, Commerce and the Pentagon have been dubbed the "Home Alone" departments because their secretaries have so few aides in place. This glacial progress has various causes, not just an unwillingness to sign up; but presidents Carter and Reagan had at least 100 to 150 more people in place by the end of their first years.



Seitz: tipped for job in the State Department

Three other "Ps" explain the President's problems: privacy, pressure and pay. Too many possible nominees saw the way Zoe Baird, Kimba Wood and Lani Guinier were humiliated by the media or congressmen for trivial ethical lapses or past writings that deviated slightly from the orthodox. The latest victim is Morton Halperin, nominee for Assistant Secretary of Defence, whom Republicans are denouncing as an "extreme radical" for daring to criticise CIA covert operations.

In no other White House has the pressure been so intense. It drove Vincent Foster, the deputy White House counsel, to suicide.

"I realised that I'd become more and more irrelevant to the operation of my family," said Roy Neel, the Deputy Chief of Staff who, like Mr Paster, will next week swap the intoxication of power for a relatively tranquil private sector life.

White House pay has fallen under Mr Clinton. His most senior aides earn $125,000 (£84,000), down from $134,000 under President Bush, and salaries of $20,000 to $30,000 are commonplace. Mr Paster and Mr Neel will both earn more than $500,000 in their new jobs, a fact their present colleagues must have noticed. Finding new officials could soon be less of a problem for Mr Clinton than stopping present ones leaving.

□ **Community corps:** The Corporation for National and Community Service will announce next month the formation of "Americorps", a federal programme designed to keep Mr Clinton's campaign pledge to let students pay for college education through service to others. Americorps members are to go to hard-pressed communities to tackle problems from street crime to environmental hazards while earning college tuition at the same time. *(Reuter)*



Kevorkian: has had possible heart attack

'Suicide doctor' is freed

JACK Kevorkian, who has helped about 20 suicides since 1990, prepared to leave Michigan police custody yesterday after a judge in Detroit ruled that the state's law barring assisted suicide was contrary to the constitution.

Dr Kevorkian has been in prison on hunger strike since November 30, when he was jailed for helping a terminally ill woman to kill herself. On Sunday, he was taken to hospital after a possible heart attack.

Endeavour's success raises hopes for a space station

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE mission to repair the Hubble space telescope concluded in apparent triumph as the space shuttle Endeavour returned to Florida after what has been hailed as the most daring mission since the Apollo moon landings.

For Nasa the mission broke an unlucky series of space adventures, including the loss of the Mars Observer craft. It has also renewed public confidence in Nasa and its ability to conduct technically difficult operations in space.

If Hubble lives up to its grand promises and contributes to a better understanding of the universe, as some scientists claim, that would also improve the chances of Congressional funding for the proposed space station project. The Clinton Administration said recently that that project will be conducted jointly with the Russians for cost reasons.

The seven astronauts on board the Endeavour landed at Cape Canaveral yesterday in the early hours, after an 11-day journey and five space walks lasting 35 hours 28 minutes, a world record. Each space walk accomplished specific repair tasks, such as fitting optical devices to correct the vision of Hubble's out-of-focus primary mirror, new gyroscopes and new solar power units. It will not be clear for another seven weeks whether all the repairs have been successful.

If they are, the $1.6 billion (£1.1 billion) telescope will be improved by a factor of ten, according to Daniel Weedman, Nasa's astrophysics director. "This mission inspired us all and it laid the basis for tremendous leaps in our knowledge of the universe," he said. If the optical repairs work, he said, Hubble will be able to "look deep into the heart of fairly nearby galaxies to see if these gigantic black holes exist there. We want to look deep inside regions where new stars are being born and presumably planetary systems in the vicinities."

Dr Story Musgrave, one of the astronauts and chief space walker, said: "We went into this scared. It meant an incredible amount to us and to others to get this job done."

The astronauts' ability to install so many components with ease raised morale at the space agency and, for many, demonstrated that a space station can be built. "It shows that we can do what we say we can do," Jeremiah Pearson, head of Nasa's space flight programme, said.

Dr Musgrave and the three other space walkers encountered few obstacles and completed all their goals on the set day. "This has been an exciting mission because everybody could almost participate with the astronauts," Mr Pearson said, referring to the televised space walks. "We are not going to be able to do that all the time."

In America, the mission has fomented a heated debate about priorities in science funding, especially about ambitious and costly physics projects. One, the super-conducting supercollider project, which would lead to greater insight into particle physics, has already been killed by Congress.

Eight space shuttle missions are planned next year, one more than this, beginning with a science research flight by Discovery in late January. The crew will include Sergei Krikalev, who will be the first Russian to fly in a US shuttle.

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هكذا من الأصل

How world trade talks turned into a Hollywood cliffhanger



Spielberg: restrictions would harm industry

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

HOLLYWOOD'S biggest producers and directors are starring in a real-life cliffhanger as their demands head the list of final obstacles to completing a new world trade deal.

They are backing America's negotiators in Geneva, who are demanding free access to foreign markets for American films, television and audio cassettes. They are pitted against the French, who want to protect their own film industry by continued subsidies and quotas, which already limit American films to 57 per cent of the box office and impose an 11 per cent tax on tickets for foreign films that goes to French film-makers.

The clash has set American producers and directors against their European peers. Americans suspect the Europeans are simply envious of the quality and pulling power of Hollywood's productions. The Europeans fear the Americans want a monopoly.

Martin Scorsese, the director, strongly criticised the French quotas. "Closing the borders would not guarantee a rise in creativity in the local countries or even a rise of interest on the part of local audiences," he said.

Steven Spielberg, whose *Jurassic Park* has been the biggest box office attraction this year in both America and Europe, said: "Film-makers can find no comfort when their film is barred, or restricted, or otherwise frustrated when they try to take out work to the global public."

A group of European directors, including Bernardo Bertolucci of Italy and Stephen Frears of Britain, replied with a letter in *Variety* and *Hollywood Reporter*, two trade papers. They complained that American films and television threaten to swamp the local product and, if left unchecked, "there will be no more European film industry by the year 2000".

They protested: "We are only desperately defending the tiny margin of freedom left to us. We are trying to protect European cinema against its complete annihilation."

The Europeans also charged that they were being locked out of the American market. "Do you seriously think that our European films are really so bad that they only deserve to reach 1 per cent of American audiences, while American films fill more than 80 per cent of European screens?" they asked.

The American case is being argued at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) talks by Mickey Kantor, President Clinton's trade representative, who had close ties to Hollywood when he was a lawyer in Los Angeles. He has promised that he will not let his old friends down.

In a final effort to conclude the trade deal President Clinton held a series of telephone conversations with three European leaders — John Major, Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister, and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor.

The talks produced an immediate impetus at the trade negotiations in Geneva, encouraging negotiators to agree on a series of outstanding issues. But the leaders' personal intervention failed to bring about progress on the issue of the liberalisation of the audio-visual market. Much is at stake for the Americans whose film industry produces a trade surplus of $3.7 billion (£2.5 billion), second only to aerospace.

Hollywood particularly resents the French tax on foreign films, which raised $350 million last year and went towards production of 150 French films. Hollywood claims that it is, in effect, subsidising French cinema, not obliterating it.

President Clinton's stance against French film subsidies is regarded as a test of how seriously he stands up for California's interests. If France prevails, the President would face criticism in a state whose support was crucial for his election victory, and where his popularity has since nosedived because of his unfulfilled promises of an economic revival in the region.



Scorsese: closing the borders will not help

Gatt chief insists film row must not sabotage deal

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN GENEVA AND JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

■ The Gatt director-general has told the deadlocked European and US trade negotiators he is prepared to drop the entire film and TV section from the treaty

EUROPE and America were warned last night that the bitterly fought dispute over Hollywood's share of the European film and television market would be dropped from a world trade treaty in order to preserve the rest of the agreement.

Peter Sutherland, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), last night warned Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community negotiator, and Mickey Kantor, the American trade representative, that he would today publish the text of "the greatest trade agreement ever" which must be concluded before a deadline of 5 o'clock (London time) on Thursday morning.

Mr Sutherland privately told the EC and American negotiators that regulations for audio-visual business would simply be left out of the treaty. In public yesterday he would say only that he thought it "inconceivable" that an argument over video and film royalties and quotas for American programmes on European television channels should stop the 116 countries taking part in the Uruguay Round of the talks from signing a trade treaty which has taken seven years to draw up. EC and American officials are were also still at odds over civil aircraft subsidies last night.

"I can't believe that a dispute on aircraft or blank tape levies or whatever could conceivably justify the failure of the round," Mr Sutherland said. "I can't believe that the European Union or the US would jeopardise the round. The rest of the world is waiting for a conclusion. Brinkmanship is all very well but the brink is finally reached on Wednesday."

A Gatt official said last night that, deep though European and American divisions were over films and television, the quarrel would not sabotage the treaty. "It's a bilateral argument," he said. "They can go on arguing about it for another six months if they like."

Mr Sutherland's optimism yesterday was boosted by the completion of large sections of the treaty text in the early hours of yesterday morning. "Essentially the deal is there," a Gatt spokesman said as 17 hours of non-stop negotiations reached a conclusion. "This is it."

Mr Sutherland later congratulated governments all over the world on making the necessary compromises on subects as varied as copyright, animal diseases, farm subsidies and venture capital.

One of the largest hurdles was cleared when American and Japanese officials agreed a new code on what governments may and may not do to prevent cheap imports being "dumped" inside their national borders, a particular sticking point with the Americans.

Gatt officials are now waiting for the last few pieces of the jigsaw to be moved into place. The treaty will be in grave trouble if the Japanese government fails to carry out its promise to announce that it will lift a long-standing ban on rice imports today. The American and Japanese governments were still deadlocked last night on future regulations governing access to each other's financial services markets.

☐ **Tokyo:** As the first container ship carrying foreign rice for household consumption docked in Kobe port yesterday morning and unloaded 7,200 tons of Californian grown "japonica" rice as part of a temporary emergency rice import plan to combat this year's bad harvest, Japan's fragile seven-party coalition government lead by Morihiro Hosokawa, the Prime Minister, was set last night to finally officially accept a Gatt proposal on the controversial partial opening of the domestic rice market (Joanna Pitman writes).

After Tsutomu Hata, the Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, returned from Geneva yesterday and reported his failure to extract last minute concessions for Japan's case from Gatt negotiators, Mr Hosokawa had no choice but to declare his government's decision to open 4-8 per cent of the market to tariff-controlled imports after a six-year moratorium.

Rice has become a highly symbolic and contentious issue in a country that considers that the "spiritual quality" of Japanese rice should make it a special case and exempt it from Gatt rules that apply to mere commodities. Yet the decision to open the protected domestic market had in private been deemed inevitable for at least five years.

Brittan's plea page 1



Mickey Kantor, the American trade negotiator, leaving the Hotel Intercontinental in Geneva yesterday after another round of prolonged discussions with his European counterparts. Negotiators are working against the clock to settle the outstanding issues of the world trade deal

Reporters arrested by Turks

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

POLICE raids on the offices of a pro-Kurdish newspaper and the continued detention of 39 of its employees have fuelled fears that reaction to Kurdish separatism in south-east Turkey is forcing the country back into a period of censorship and chronic human rights violations.

The largest of the raids was in Istanbul, well away from the insurrection, where the police loaded two buses with journalists from the headquarters of *Ozgur Gundem* on Friday.

A statement by the State Security Court, which ordered the raids, said the police had uncovered evidence connecting the paper to the Kurdistan Workers' Party (the PKK).

There is little doubt that the paper is sympathetic to the separatist cause and to the PKK's violent methods. One of its occasional columnists is Ali Firat, widely assumed to be the pseudonym of Abdullah Ocalan, who heads the separatist organisation. If the paper's reporting has been partisan it has paid a price. Scores of issues of the newspaper have been confiscated, four of its editors are in jail and 11 reporters and distributors have been murdered.

Letters, page 17

Black market goods keep Sarajevo alive at a price

FROM TOM RHODES IN SARAJEVO

THE market at Aplasino Polje, opposite Sarejevo's television centre, is an extraordinary daily event in a city where, after 617 days of siege, the meagre diet for many is rice and little else. It is one of several black markets in the Bosnian capital at which Sarajevans with hard currency can buy almost anything at a price.

A bag of onions or fresh leeks can cost as much as 20 marks (£8), a water pipe fitting is perhaps 15 marks, a teddy bear 30 marks and a leather skirt 25 marks. For many the cost of such items, many of which have been procured from aid convoys and airlifts, is prohibitive. Mothers and children stare enviously as fellow citizens load food and warm clothing into cars. They come to the markets nonetheless. The daily haggle at least offers a semblance of normality and a point of contact.

In the past week, however, the marketplaces of Sarajevo, like the library, the museum and the hospital before them, have become the latest killing grounds. Five people died when a shell landed in one last Monday. On Thursday, the Bosnian Serbs shelled the market at Dolac Malta killing four people, including a doctor and a student aged 20, and wounding four others. On Friday, Dolac Malta was virtually empty but at Alpasino Polje, half a mile away, the market was thriving.

Senada Fezic, a marketeer, was offering dried milk, tobacco and onions which, if sold, would give her 25 marks for the day. Her husband is at the frontline fighting and she must find money to provide for her children, Alen, one, and Anel, who celebrates his seventh birthday on Christmas day.

"Christmas will not be the same in our family this year," she said. "Although we are Muslims, we always used to celebrate it with a tree and lights. This time we will be lucky to find enough food to eat and firewood to keep us warm."

The next stallholder, Mirsada Kadric, said everyone was now in constant fear of mortars and heavy artillery rounds from the Serbs. "In spite of that we must come here every day. It is a matter of survival," she said.

In the past week more that 20 Sarajevans have been killed by artillery or sniper fire and more than 100 have been wounded. The fighting has been worse, of course; there was a time when 50 people died in one day. But the continual ravages of the siege have seemingly dimmed even Sarajevo's defiance.

Food is desperately short; officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees say most Sarajevans are getting less than the basic supplement their agency provides. Last week only 75 aid flights arrived at the airport — in a good week it should be as many as 300 — and five land convoys made it through the Serb lines.

If past experience is anything to go by, more convoys will be held up and the Bosnian Serbs will merely increase their battering of Sarajevo. The worst snows of winter are yet to fall.



☐ **London:** Britain is suppressing evidence of genocide, organised rape and other war crimes in Bosnia-Herzegovina, senior former American officials claimed in a report on last night's *Panorama* television programme. The government has obstructed United Nations attempts to bring war criminals to justice and has refused to contribute cash, services or a significant amount of information to the UN Commission on War Crimes, they alleged. Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, denied evidence of war crimes.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Campbell resigns leadership

Ottawa: Kim Campbell, Canada's Conservative party leader, resigned yesterday after leading the party to its worst electoral defeat in October (Edward Greenspon writes).

She has been the victim of intense party in-fighting as Conservatives sought scapegoats for a campaign that took them from a majority in the 295-member House of Commons to just two seats. In the last analysis Miss Campbell, 46, seems to have been forced out by party fundraisers. The party executive is expected to name Jean Charest, the Quebec MP, as interim leader.

Denktas victory

Istanbul: Turkish Cypriot voters have broken the stranglehold of the National Unity Party (UBP) over the northern half of the island. The election result, still being counted, is a partial victory for Rauf Denktas, the president of the self-declared republic, who recently broke with the party he founded. Final predictions are that the UBP will have 16 deputies in the 50-seat parliament and the Democrats 15.

Sailors' ordeal

New York: Two American sailors were pulled to safety by a Japanese cargo ship after spending 12 hours in a leaking raft during a hurricane-force Atlantic storm. The men were 200 miles off the US coast when the storm struck their 30ft sloop. The steering jammed, the mast was torn away and finally it capsized.

Bondi danger

Sydney: Some of Australia's most famous beaches, such as Bondi, are so polluted by sewage after heavy rain that they may be closed to stop swimmers falling sick and suing local governments. *(Reuter)*

Jackson home

Los Angeles: Michael Jackson, the pop superstar beset by allegations that he sexually molested a boy aged 13, has returned to the United States, the boy's lawyer said. *(Reuter)*

Chinese air safety in crisis

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S top aviation official has confirmed that the country's air safety situation is in crisis. Jiang Shuping, head of the Civil Aviation Administration, called on Chinese leaders to "make safety an overwhelming priority".

This year is China's so-called "Year of Safety", but already 73 people have been killed in three crashes. The ninth hijacking since April, and the second in four days, saw yet another passenger aircraft diverted to Taiwan.

Last year 380 people were killed in five Chinese air crashes, a fifth of the world total, and an airline magazine observed that it might be safer to live in Sarajevo than fly in a Chinese plane.

According to Mr Jiang, his teams are travelling throughout China, empowered to prosecute negligent airport and airline workers and revoke the flying licences of poor pilots.

The inspectors will have a wide field to inspect. There are 35 airlines in China and the number of passengers and the amount of cargo carried this year is up by almost 20 per cent and 23 per cent compared with last year. To deal with this demand China is buying planes, training pilots and coping with air traffic control in skies already among the most crowded in Asia.

One of Mr Jiang's deputies has admitted that those who direct air traffic have "failed to carry through rules on air safety and security".

After Sunday's hijacking, Taiwan officials again said that Chinese airport security was lax. Peking usually claims that hijackers head for Taiwan because they know they will face light penalties. Previous hijackers have received sentences averaging ten years.

Interim council faces Buthelezi clash

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

A CLASH looming between South Africa's new administrative body, the Transitional Executive Council, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's KwaZulu homeland government is likely to signal today who is running the country in the run-up to next April's multiracial election.

The council is to meet in Cape Town to discuss what steps to take over KwaZulu's refusal to supply it with information about an alleged hit squad within the homeland police force that is said to have been involved in the murders of at least nine people, including African National Congress members. The ANC and its allies on the council are expected to demand tough action, including the dispatch of South African troops and police to Ulundi, the homeland capital, to search KwaZulu police offices. Such action would challenge the government's control of the security forces.

Last week President de Klerk declared unequivocally: "The government has not stopped governing and the TEC is not the new government of South Africa."

The government is anxiously seeking to avoid a confrontation both with the council and Chief Buthelezi's KwaZulu government which he has declared will not recognise the authority of the interim body. At the weekend a meeting of the central committee of Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party reaffirmed the decision not to hand over documents about the alleged hit squad. It said of the council: "The central committee notes that power tends to corrupt and the biased action of the TEC bears this out."

Political violence took a further gruesome turn yesterday when a group of whites ambushed two cars occupied by blacks near Johannesburg and shot dead two people, including an 11-year-old boy, and seriously wounded five others.

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'Clown' fools stunned Yeltsin with punch below the belt



Yeltsin: won a narrow "yes" on the constitution

President Yeltsin won half a victory in Sunday's elections, squeaking home with a narrow "yes" vote on his proposed constitution. But the defeat that he and his reformers have suffered in the accompanying vote to the new parliament looks like being a robust one. Barring a late burst as results come in from central Russia, the main democratic bloc, Russia's Choice, appears to be fighting the communists for second place.

Not long ago the wild-eyed firebrand Vladimir Zhirinovsky was dismissed by Russia's confident reformers as a political clown and his Liberal Democratic Party as a comical misnomer. The democrats made the fatal mistake of overestimating their own automatic access to the hearts and minds of the people and underestimating the appeal of a charismatic politician unafraid of promising the simple man's utopia of Russian might, cheap sausage and safe streets.

Dangling these promises, Mr Zhirinovsky appealed unashamedly to the baser instincts of his voters. While the warring democratic factions engaged in the language of economics and the market, still imperfectly understood by many ordinary Russians, he told them that not to bother their heads with such things. Instead he delivered simple nostrums the people wanted to hear: stop the Westernisation of Holy Russia, return the former Soviet republics to their rightful place as colonies of Moscow, clamp down on crime and restore the nostalgic qualities of *zheleznyi poriadok* (iron order) and *silnaya ruka* (the strong hand).

In the early aftershock of the vote there is real fear among supporters of Western-style democracy and reforms that Mr Zhirinovsky, once started, will prove unstoppable and that he is now on his way to the job he wants most: the presidency. The panic is heightened by the fact that people and politicians alike were ill-prepared for the far-rights gain. Two women wept inconsolably on the early morning metro yesterday. "We will have fascism. He will take Russia to war," sobbed one. "I do not want to bring up sons in such a country."



■ Anne McElvoy in Moscow assesses the outlook for President Yeltsin after the election victory by the neo-Fascist leader

Mikhail Polteranin, a senior Yeltsin aide spoke of Mr Zhirinovsky representing "Fascism in its purest form". It had, he said, been "let in the back door opened by our divisions and ambitions". There is some truth in this. Had the democrats pooled their resources under the tutelage of Boris Yeltsin, they would have appeared more responsible and the figure of Mr Yeltsin, while no longer as popular as in his own heyday as the hero of the underdog, would at least have drawn some attention away from Mr Zhirinovsky who appeared as the only charasmatic candidate among lacklustre figures.

The West, too, must take some of the blame, to the extent that foreign governments and organisations, notably the IMF, have instilled a false confidence into the radical reformers, warning them not to slow down the process, that the problem was not that change was too rapid but that it was not fast enough and that a fall in living standards was a cross worth bearing for the sake of a future in the market place.

From a world economic point of view, these tenets may be defensible, but many foreign advisers were slow to accept that many Russians were suffering greater hardship than before and could see no prospect of improvement. In the run-up to the vote it was common to hear the phalanx of Western economists and strategists who advise the government saying: "Well obviously, Yavlinsky (the alternative reformer) cannot work with Gaidar. They have completely different approaches."

Russia's experience politicians internalised this schismatic thinking and while they argued about the precise structure of their favoured macro-economic approach, the voters turned their attention elsewhere.

This development makes it more pressing than ever that the West sharpens its focus on Russia and decides what it wants of her. The dream combination of steady political reform and democratic transformation seems to be too much for the country to handle at present. Particularly thorny will be the visit by President Clinton in January, initially intended as a return back-slapping trip after Mr Yeltsin's foray to Vancouver last year. But there will be less inclination than ever in the West to throw money into a Russia where extremism is taking hold and the US President may be forced to rethink his early pledge, "We must not lose Russia" and opt for a discreet disentanglement as far as politics goes. He may concentrate on realising nuclear arms accords — a subject on which we will doubtless hear more hair-raising stuff from Mr Zhirinovsky who once wanted to turn the southern former Soviet republics into nuclear dumping grounds for Russia. Nato, with its January summit looming, will also be forced to be cautious about the reaction from Moscow of taking on new Eastern European members in a hurry.

The sole cause for relief in this mess is that the new basic law guaranteeing that the presidency will enjoy sweeping powers and the right to slap down the legislature if it becomes too unruly. These are dispensations he will certainly need faced with a strong hard left and hard right alliance intent on stymying reforms.

But it is far from certain whether the outcome of this election is manageable for the democrats, even if they put aside their personal ambitions and rejoin forces. Mr Yeltsin is keen to model the Russian leadership on De Gaulle's Fifth Republic, but without a parliamentary majority he will find himself in constant and debilitating conflict with the parliament, particularly over economic and foreign policy.

In short, the brave new parliament intended to replace the sclerotic and disputatious Supreme Soviet may bear a disturbing resemblance to its predecessor, except that Mr Zhirinovsky is far more extreme than the imprisoned leaders of the parliamentary rebellion.

Yegor Gaidar, head of the ill-fated Russia's Choice bloc, has compared the state of Russia with that of pre-war Germany, citing economic instability, weak and fragmented democracy and a stong populist as common factors.

Reformists crushed, page 1
Lawrence Freedman, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Neo-Fascist victory is branded as disgrace to Russia

*Russian liberals are horrified at the prospect of a democratically elected Fascist party taking control of parliament, **Anatol Lieven writes** from Moscow*

A RUSSIAN liberal intellectual wept bitterly yesterday as she watched the fortunes of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the neo-Fascist leader, rise and rise. "It is a disgrace for Russia," she said.

She and many other fearful Russian liberals and members of ethnic minorities are now convinced that Russia is on the road of Weimar Germany, and that Mr Zhirinovsky may win a future presidential election and establish a Fascist regime.

Russia's Choice, the main reformist bloc, has described Mr Zhirinovsky as a "threat to the existence of the nation". Russia's neighbours fear a Russian war of reconquest if he comes to power.

On the landing of the crumbling 19th-century block of flats where Mr Zhirinovsky's badly misnamed Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has its shabby offices is a kiosk selling Heavy Metal gear to Mr Zhirinovsky's younger male supporters. Journalists who belatedly hurried yesterday to interview party officials were not reassured by having to walk past a row of black leather jackets with metal studs, and T-shirts bearing slogans including "Eat 'Em And Smile" and "Death Or Glory".

Although Mr Zhirinovsky has not yet tried to set up a large-scale paramilitary force, his party, like the Nazis, obviously has enormous appeal for the more thuggish sections of Russian youth. These have great potential to destabilise the Russian state, especially given the support for Mr Zhirinovsky in the ranks of the police and military.

Moreover, following his sweeping election victory, Mr Zhirinovsky's support is likely to grow still further as members of Russia's numerous ultra-nationalist splinter groups rally to his banner. His extreme rhetoric has led commentators in the past to dismiss him as a mere clown. In 1991, he called publicly for the re-annexation of Finland, part of the Russian empire before 1917.

Last year Mr Zhirinovsky suggested burying nuclear waste along the borders of the Baltic states if they did not respect the rights of their Russian minorities so that the Balts would die of radiation sickness. In the course of this election campaign he has demanded that suspected criminals should be shot in the street after a court martial. A bitter opponent of rapprochement with the West, he has sent volunteers to fight "American imperialism" in Iraq and Yugoslavia.

The dismissal of Mr Zhirinovsky's importance by commentators was encouraged by public incidents such as the one last week when he got into a scuffle with a security guard when he tried to present flowers to a favourite pop singer.

But as an Estonian deputy commented prophetically two years ago: "When Zhirinovsky first appeared, we thought he was a good joke. Then we thought that he was a bad joke and now, we don't think that he is a joke at all."

The success of his party will thoroughly alarm all the other former Soviet republics. LDP party officials said yesterday that their first priority in the new parliament will be to demand the abolition of Russia's own ethnically based autonomous republic, a move which would lead to immediate conflict with the Tatars and other large minorities.

> **'He threatened to bury nuclear waste along the borders of the Baltic states if they did not respect the rights of their Russian minorities'**

During this campaign Mr Zhirinovsky denied that he is seeking war, but in the past he has openly threatened it. In the course of the past month, he has savagely attacked all the other former Soviet republics over their alleged persecution of Russian speakers within their borders. He has accused the Kazakh and other governments of allowing the rape and murder of Russian children. One of his election posters reads: "I will allow nobody to harm Russians".

This has helped his popularity among military officers, a majority of whom seem to have voted for him. The Russian high command is probably too cautious to side with him, but one air force captain said: "When it comes to political involvement, the generals have no power any more. If the army is called on again to act as it did in October, it is the captains and majors who will decide how a unit will behave."

Vladimir Volfovich Zhirinovsky is a curious personality. Most unusually for a Russian ultra-nationalist, his father apparently was from a Jewish family. He himself has never denied this outright. His anti-semitic language has been mild by the standards of the Russian right, though he has indulged in standard rhetoric about Russia's exploitation by "Zionists who control international banking."

Much greater hatred however is reserved for other nationalities of the former Soviet Union. That could have something to do with Mr Zhirinovsky's early life in Alma Ata, capital of Kazakhstan.

In a portrait with close parallels with those of demagogue-tyrants of the past, Mr Zhirinovsky has described in his surprisingly frank autobiography, *The Zhirinovsky Phenomenon*, an acutely lonely childhood and youth, with no close friends or female companions. He was apparently deeply humiliated by his mother's love affair with a much younger man, leading her virtually to abandon him as a child.

He is married but writes openly that "I have never had the feeling that I love my wife very much" and that "I never lost myself in love; that is why I was able to preserve my strength for politics".

Mr Zhirinovsky became a lawyer and joined the fringes of the democratic opposition in 1988 before moving to join the ultra-nationalists. His meteoric rise to prominence as a presidential candidate against President Yeltsin in June 1991, when he came third and won seven million votes, was clearly backed by a lot of money. The unknown source of this money led to persistent rumours that he had been created by the KGB to split the opposition vote.

Since September, rumours have also circulated to the effect that Mr Zhirinovsky was being covertly subsidised by pro-Yeltsin forces to split the hardline nationalist opposition. If true, they have all too clearly created a Frankenstein's monster.

Such rumours have been encouraged by yesterday's statement by Mr Yeltsin's spokesman in which he said that the President could work with Mr Zhirinovsky, but no proof has been advanced for the charge that the Yeltsin camp had backed the campaign in order to split the opposition.

Mr Zhirinovsky himself has said that his support for Mr Yeltsin in the struggle with the former parliament and over the constitution was perfectly consistent since he himself believes in strong, presidential government.

If he ever gets his hands on that government "then god help us all" was the reaction of one Western diplomat yesterday. Mr Zhirinovsky's press spokesman said that the Liberal Democrats will now use its parliamentary power to demand early presidential elections.



Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the neo-Fascist, explaining his vision of Russia's future yesterday after his party's apparent success in the parliamentary elections

Extremist stirs army's dream of conquests

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE dramatic success of the extreme nationalist, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, in the parliamentary elections will generate new fears about a resurgence of militarism in Russia.

The West is already worried about Russia's new military doctrine which contains a number of disturbing features, hinting at intervention and expansionism. An authoritative report sent to the Ministry of Defence has said that the new doctrine, produced last month, should force Western governments to think very carefully about their policies towards Moscow.

The message will be underlined now that Mr Zhirinovsky's party has topped the polls. He has talked of reconquering former Soviet republics and his nationalist speeches have won admiration from army officers angry at the loss of their former prestige. The language of the new doctrine appears to match the aspirations of Mr Zhirinovsky.

Initial Western assessment of the military doctrine was favourable, mainly because the Cold War language had been dropped. But it was based only on a synopsis given by General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister.

Western military experts have been allowed to see only a summary of 21 of the 23 pages. However, a detailed assessment carried out by Charles Dick, from the Conflict Studies Research Centre at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and delivered recently to the Ministry of Defence, said the doctrine reflected the right of the armed forces "to ignore the sovereignty of now independent former Soviet republics and to intervene where and when it suits Russia's interests".

Mr Dick said: "The army, and perhaps the government and people of Russia, simply do not accept that such states are truly independent and do not treat them as such."

Mr Dick said the doctrine also assumed the Russian armed forces could continue to spend "according to their perception of need rather than what the economy can afford".

If the defence ministry in Moscow and the defence industries had the political clout to enforce this demand, "it will either prolong the economic slump indefinitely, virtually killing off reform, or it will provoke a revolution and probably the disintegration of the Russian Federation".

He said the lessons of the collapse of the Soviet Union "simply do not seem to have penetrated the military mind". The doctrine posed "profound and disturbing questions" for the Russian people and the countries of the "near abroad", the former Soviet republics.

Mr Dick queried whether the West should relax the restrictions on the sale of high technology equipment to Russia, "given the unabashed aim of the army (expressed in the doctrine) to acquire world-class weaponry". He also questioned whether economic aid to Russia was "undeniably desirable". Apart from existing doubts about Russia's ability to spend money wisely to improve the economy, "would such aid merely help the military to fund its grandiose schemes?" The biggest question was whether the West should support Russia's "peacekeeping" efforts in the near abroad. "Should it approve them in some areas and draw a line at others, such as the Baltics and Ukraine, and would such a line be credible anyway?"

On the basis of the new doctrine, Russian foreign policy and defence elites had not lost their "imperial itch".

Former Warsaw Pact countries in eastern Europe also appeared to be regarded as being within the Russian Federation's sphere of influence. The doctrine warned them not to get too close to Nato.

However, Mr Dick acknowledged that much of the doctrine was "Alice in Wonderland". The reference to maintaining combat readiness rang increasingly hollow. The army was a "very brittle instrument" and any attempt to wield it too vigorously in putting down internal conflicts was likely to break it. "Civil war is likely to be the outcome," Mr Dick said.



New faces will hold sway in Moscow's revamped parliament

BY ANATOL LIEVEN



Zyuganov: leader of Communist group

ONE of the most striking aspects about Russia's new parliament is likely to be that it will be dominated by men who at present are practically unknown. On the one hand are the vast bloc of small and faceless supporters of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Liberal Democratic Party leader, who have been elected from under his wing; on the other, the large number of independent candidates elected to the Federation Council and the individual constituencies making up half the seats in the state Duma.

The independent candidates tend to be local notables, former Communist and state officials and managers. They are lukewarm about democracy and sometimes strongly Russian nationalist, but many support basic economic reform as they are now engaged in private business. Above all, they are dubious of the kind of populist radicalism and potential street violence threatened by Mr Zhirinovsky and could have a moderating effect on what will otherwise be a dangerously explosive opposition parliament.

The following figures are leading politicians from the opposition and the government who have won seats in the new parliament.

Gennadi Zyuganov, 49, is the leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, by far the largest of the Communist groups to have emerged from the carcass of the old Soviet Communist Party. He has always belonged to the Russian nationalist wing of the Communist Party and so could co-operate with Mr Zhirinovsky. However Mr Zyuganov, who sees himself as the legitimate heir of the Soviet Communist Party, is unlikely to submit happily to the dictates of a parvenu such as Mr Zhirinovsky.

Anatoli Lukyanov, 63, the former chairman of the Soviet parliament, ran for election for the Communists despite being on trial for his role in the failed 1991 coup against Mikhail Gorbachev, the president. A man of considerable ability and some charm, Mr Lukyanov is expected to play a leading part for the Communist Party, but he may find it difficult to co-operate with Mr Zhirinovsky.

Sergei Baburin, 34, is a former Communist reformist who swung against reform when he saw the Soviet Union disintegrate and is now a strong nationalist. One of the most effective parliamentary speakers and organisers of the former opposition, Mr Baburin was careful to distance himself from the parliamentary leadership before President Yeltsin's tanks moved in on the White House in October. Once widely tipped as a possible opposition candidate for president, his star has now been eclipsed by Mr Zhirinovsky.

Yegor Gaidar, 37, the deputy prime minister for economic reform, is the leader of Russia's Choice, the main reformist bloc. He was born into the top Soviet establishment, the son of an admiral and grandson of a Bolshevik writer, and believed Russia could do better under capitalism. He is exceptionally intelligent and determined, but suffers from his image as the advocate of "shock therapy" and unpopular austerity policies. He may have cost Russia's Choice more votes than he gained them. He is one man for whom no compromise with fascists is possible.

Gennadi Burbulis, 48, is a former Communist academic from Sverdlovsk. Mr Yeltsin's base in the Urals, and has long been his aide and a hate figure for the opposition. His is usually called a radical democrat, but with marked authoritarian tendancies. Recently he has criticised Mr Yeltsin for not personally entering the election campaign on the side of the reformists. If Mr Yeltsin is seen to be on the way out, it is possible Mr Burbulis might make personal accommodations with Mr Zhirinovsky.

Sergei Shakhrai, 37, leads the pro-reform Party of Unity and Accord. A cossack, his is deputy prime minister with responsibility for ethnic questions. Before these elections, he was seen as a strong future contender for the presidency, and the president's main troubleshooter for ethnic conflict. Now he has drifted away from Mr Yeltsin and sought support from centrist leaders in Russia's regions. This will be crucial if he runs for the presidency.



Gaidar: the leader of Russia's Choice

هكذا من الأصل

Russia's economic revolution thrown into chaos by vote

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

ECONOMIC reforms in Russia may be thrown into confusion by the sweeping gains of nationalists and communists in the parliamentary elections. The xenophobia nurtured by hardliners will hinder reformers in their search for foreign funds, while the West is likely to think again about its aid strategy.

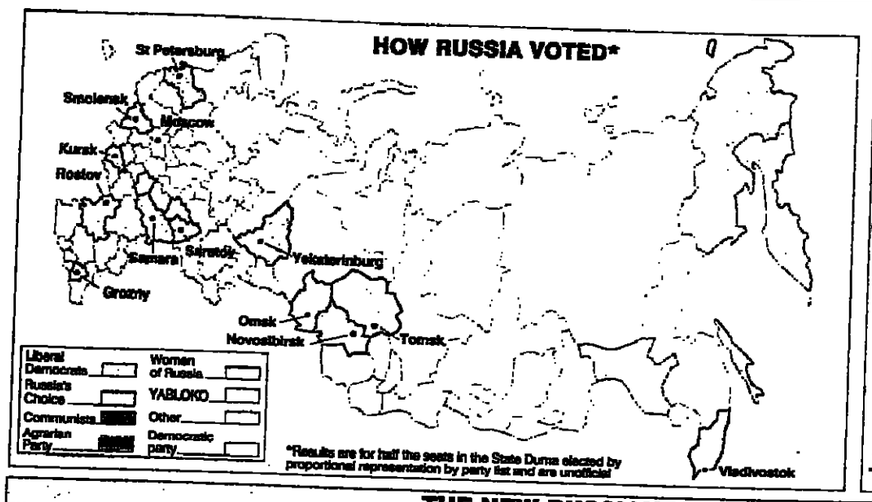
President Yeltsin, who has grown weary of the demands the West has made in exchange for help, is expected to move away from the monetarist policies advocated by the International Monetary Fund and will continue to prop up loss-making industries instead. He faces a huge dilemma in plotting Russia's economic course: if he controls inflation, unemployment — until now almost unknown — is certain to rise, heightening the risk of unrest among a population already deeply unhappy about the hardships caused by reforms. Inflation in Russia and the other former Soviet republics is estimated to average about 1,100 per cent, while unemployment is at between 1 and 5 per cent. In striking contrast, former Warsaw Pact countries which have taken action to control inflation have jobless rates of 16 and 13 per cent. Unemployment at these rates in Russia would probably cause a tidal wave of unrest.

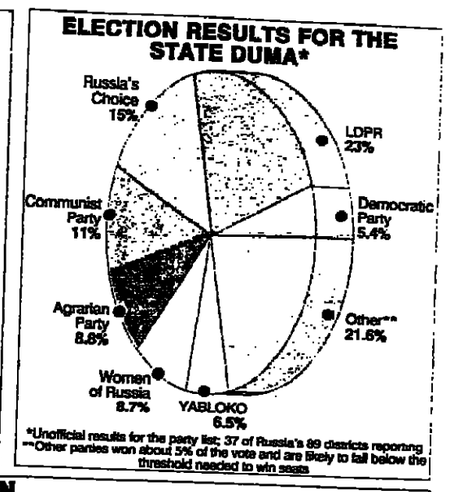
Western aid donors meanwhile want to protect the fragile Russian democracy until it can thrive on its own, but they are becoming ever more wary of sending billions of pounds into a black hole of economic chaos. They will also be reluctant to prop up a democracy that elects extremists and hardliners, such as Vladimir Zhirinovsky whose Liberal Democratic Party was surging ahead in the elections yesterday. Mr Zhirinovsky does not want aid.

A gloomy prognosis was outlined at the Conflict Studies Research Centre, at Sandhurst military academy, during a briefing for Nato staff officers, businessmen and diplomats. Speakers told of an economy facing overwhelming difficulties, deep industrial malaise, and social upheaval. Anecdotes provided vivid evidence of the problems.

The vital gas and oil industries are so ineptly run that "11 per cent of output goes into the ground through cracks and leaks in pipes", said Professor Alexander Kennaway.

"Large sums of money will not help the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe now," he says in a report on Western economic aid. What is needed is "a fundamental change of attitude from government down to the shop floor."





THE NEW RUSSIAN CONSTITUTION

THE PRESIDENT

Is the Head of State, Commander-in-chief of the armed forces and Chairman of the Security Council

Proposes the prime minister whose appointment requires the consent of parliament

Approves ministerial appointments

Appoints military commanders, diplomats, judges and the chairman of the Central Bank

Sets domestic and foreign policy guidelines

Can dissolve the State Duma or lower house if it blocks his choice of prime minister or passes two votes of no confidence in the government

Can reject legislation passed by the State Duma

Can declare a state of emergency with parliamentary consent

Can pass decrees without reference to parliament

Can call parliamentary elections

THE GOVERNMENT

Is proposed by the prime minister. Ministers who need not be members of parliament are confirmed by the president.

Draws up the budget

Implements security, defence and foreign policy

Has executive power

THE JUDICIARY

Is independent

Judges are appointed for life

Consists of the Constitutional Court which resolves cases arising from the constitution, state treaties and disputes between the Subjects of the Federation; the Supreme Court-the highest judiciary body on civil, criminal and administrative law; the Supreme Arbitration Court which deals with economic disputes. All judges are appointed by the President

THE PARLIAMENT

Consists of two chambers which debate the budget, international agreements and declarations of war or peace. They only meet to hear addresses by the President, the head of the Constitutional Court or foreign leaders

STATE DUMA (lower house)

Has 450 deputies elected from constituencies, half of them on a first-past-the post basis and the other half by proportional representation from party lists

Passes votes of confidence in the government

Approves legislation but can only draft laws which affect the budget with the consent of the government

FEDERATION COUNCIL (upper house)

Has 178 representatives, two members from each of the 89 Subjects of the Federation

Cannot be dissolved by the president

Approves State Duma legislation and presidential decrees on martial law

Nearly 60 percent of Russia's 106.2 million voters backed the constitution (53 percent turnout). Source: the Central Election Commission

Alarmed Baltic nations see vote as threat

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE

THE big gains made by hardline nationalists and communists in Russia's parliamentary elections caused alarm bordering on panic among some of its neighbours yesterday.

The Baltic states were in near shock, calling a summit meeting in the Estonian capital, Tallinn, tomorrow. Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the radical leader of the oddly-named Liberal Democratic Party, views much of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as Russian.

Norway and Belorussia described the vote as "frightening", Sweden said it was "disturbing", and Germany urged a more cautious approach to allowing former Eastern bloc countries into Nato.

Britain and America put the best gloss on events by concentrating on the simultaneous vote in favour of the new constitution expanding President Yeltsin's powers. A government spokesman in London said the charter laid the basis for democracy and human rights. He acknowledged that "nationalists and hardliners appear to have done well", but declined to comment until Moscow announces the final results. Al Gore, the American Vice President, begins a two-day visit to Moscow today to prepare for President Clinton's summit meeting with Mr Yeltsin in January. In Britain, the nationalists' success brought a stark appeal to Jews in Russia to emigrate. "While we cannot tell Russian Jews what they must do, we strongly urge them to leave," the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry said. "For several years we have been warning about the growing power of Vladimir Zhirinovsky," a spokeswoman said. "The present situation could be a grave danger to future world peace."



Gore: starting visit to Moscow today

Klaus Kinkel, German Foreign Minister, said that Nato would now have to move extremely cautiously in incorporating former Warsaw Pact countries. Mr Yeltsin, who was initially warm to plans for Poland, Hungary and the Czech and Slovak republics to join the alliance, last week declared that it would be seen as a move against Moscow.

Germany is deeply worried about the potential threat to its security from unrest in the East and has been a strong supporter of Nato expansion. Bonn now realises that defying Mr Yeltsin could provide his political enemies in the new parliament with ammunition to use against him.

On the other side of Russia, Japan had no immediate response.

In Sweden, Carl Bildt, the Prime Minister, described the strong showing by nationalists and communists as "disturbing," though he went on to say that Russia's progress towards democracy was unstoppable. Johan Joergen Holst, Norway's Foreign Minister, said: "The progress of the nationalists in the election is frightening."

In the Ukraine, Mykola Mykhalchenko, adviser to President Kravchuk, said: "In Italy, we saw fascists and communists do well. Now we have seen the same in Moscow."

President Snegur of Moldavia, on a two-day visit to the Ukraine, said the vote would inevitably affect Russia's ties with its neighbours. Senior officials in Belorussia, one of the most conservative of the former Soviet republics, also expressed concern.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader and former Soviet Foreign Minister, took comfort in the approval of a new constitution. A rare expression of support for the nationalists came from the French far-right National Front, which congratulated Mr Zhirinovsky for his "brilliant success". Mr Zhirinovsky meanwhile denied that one of his aims was to take Finland back into Russia, the Finnish News Agency reported. Elisabeth Rehn, the Defence Minister, tried to calm Finnish fears about the results and was quoted as saying she did not think Russian security policy would change even if Mr Zhirinovsky attained a prominent role in Russia.

Mr Zhirinovsky has been reported in the Finnish press as saying that a country with a woman as a defence minister did not deserve independence.

Thomas Pickering, America's ambassador to Russia, said that Mr Zhirinovsky's strong showing meant he may be a long-term disruptive influence to President Yeltsin. But Mr Pickering said he believed voters had given Yeltsin a "legal basis to move ahead" by narrowly approving the draft constitution.

"I think quite frankly he has a legal basis to move ahead," Mr Pickering said. Asked whether he expected Mr Zhirinovsky to be a "disruptive political force to be reckoned with in the years ahead," Mr Pickering said: "I think that that is entirely possible."

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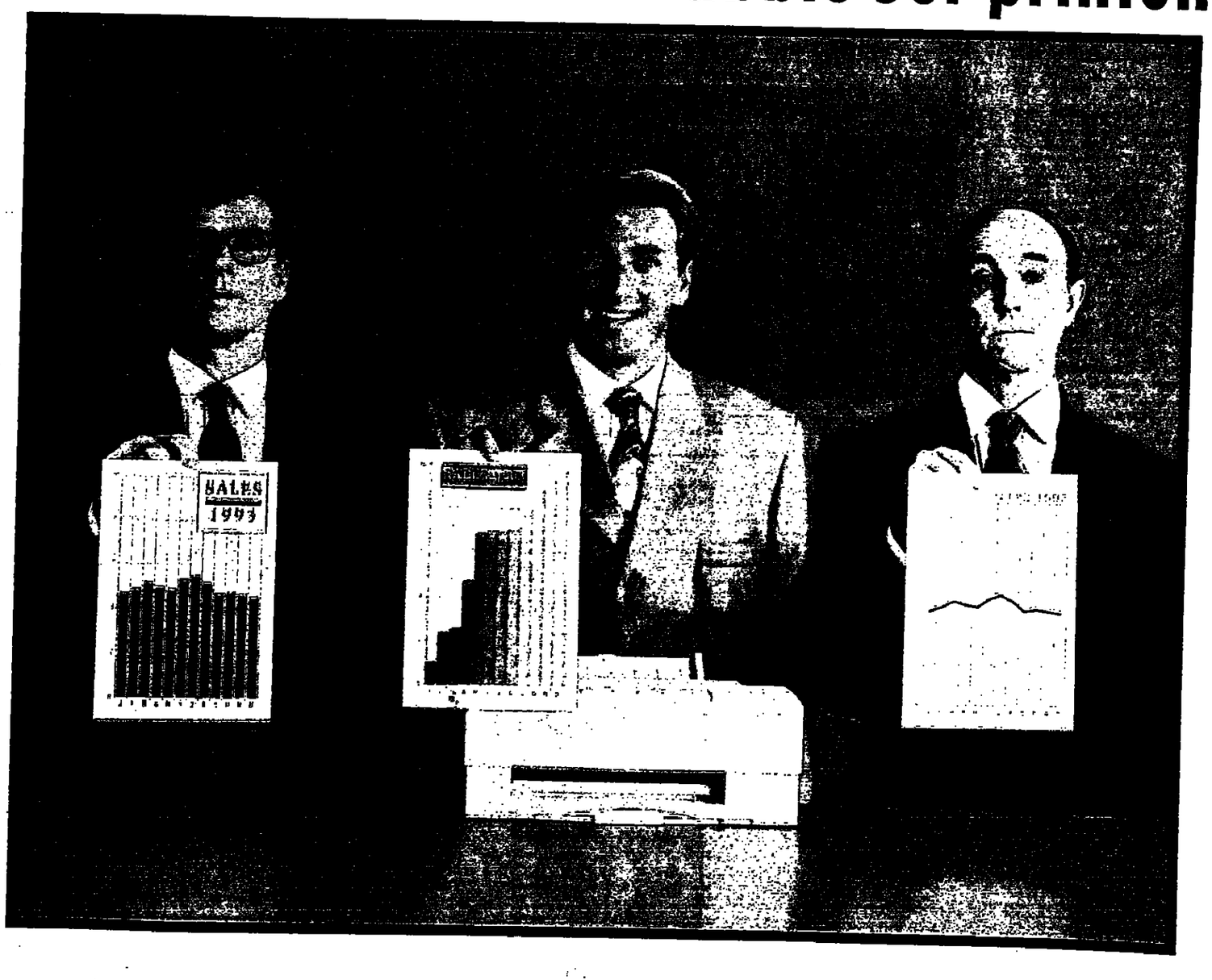
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The race is on for the biggest licence to print money since TV franchises were first granted

The great Lottery lottery

Richard Branson yesterday raised the already high stakes in the battle to operate Britain's first national lottery, writes Jon Ashworth



Richard Branson has gathered a powerful group of statesmen and businessmen to back the Lottery Foundation. Social connections will be vital

Yesterday morning, Richard Branson announced he would bid for the licence to run the National Lottery, potentially one of the biggest money-spinners in British commercial history. The entrepreneur spiced up his bid for the £4-billion-a-year venture with an offer intended to flabbergast his rivals: every penny of profit will go to charity.

The arrival of Mr Branson and his posse of eminent supporters heralds the start of a battle that will pit some of Britain's wiliest businessmen against one another. At stake, is a potential licence to print money — like the commercial television licences of a generation ago. For the past few months, the tussle to run the lottery has been dominated by two players — Camelot and The Great British Lottery Company — with a handful of smaller contenders jockeying for position behind them. Now, with the licence to make fortunes due to be awarded in the New Year, the real race has started.

A glance at the heavyweights in the Branson team, which calls itself the Lottery Foundation, provides a hint of the intensive lobbying to come. Mr Branson's fellow trustee is Lord Young of Graffham: Mrs Thatcher's former Trade Secretary and now chairman of Cable & Wireless, who possesses powerful connections in Westminster and the City. If the bid succeeds, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, Sir Angus Ogilvy, Lord Tonypandy and Lord Whitelaw will also be trustees.

To co-ordinate lobbying, the Branson camp has recruited Des Wilson, the legendary campaigner, left-wing activist and fund-raiser, who is now director of public affairs at Burson-Marsteller, the public-relations company. Marketing strategy falls into the hands of J. Walter Thompson, an advertising agency famous for its Andrex and Dulux accounts. The crucial role of technical partner goes to IBM, or "Big Blue", once a dominant force in computing, now led by Sir Anthony Cleaver.

For colour and variety of old school ties, the latest contender appears a tough competitor. For this is a very British lottery in which social connections and clubland backstabbing will matter a lot. What of the others? Camelot, backed by GTECH, a big American lottery operator, has produced the most specific proposals so far, and has an impressively strong case. Its chairman is Sir Ron Dearing, former chairman of the Post Office. Directors include Sir Ernest Harrison of Racal Electronics and Lord John Moore, the former Transport Secretary whose ambitions for higher office were sadly thwarted by a viral infection and the united hostility of his colleagues.

It may be seen as a fat cats bid: Cadbury Schweppes is on hand to advise on marketing, ICL will provide the computers, De La Rue will print the lottery tickets and Racal will supply the information lines to thousands of lottery terminals all over Britain.

Some of the biggest names in City and political lobbying lurk behind the Camelot bid. Sir Tim Bell, Baroness Thatcher's PR guru is an adviser. David Brewerton, of Brunswick, is fronting the City campaign. Saatchi & Saatchi, scenting the biggest advertising budget in British history, has been brought in to handle advertising and marketing, and the role of merchant bank adviser goes to S.G. Warburg.

Turn to the third main contender, The Great British Lottery Company, and the names fly thick and fast. This, as its name is meant to suggest, is Blighty's home-grown bid. Five powerful UK companies lie behind it: Associated Newspapers, under the *Daily Mail*'s Sir David English; Carlton Communications with the empire-building Michael Green; Gerry Robinson's Granada; Hambros, with Christopher Sporborg as the main player, and Vodafone, where Sir Ernest Harrison (again) surfaces in his capacity as chairman.

Dig a little deeper and more lottery hopefuls emerge. There is the Rainbow consortium, led by Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, and backed up by Richard Wheatly, chairman of Leo Burnett, the advertising agency. Others in the management team include Trevor Thatcher, former managing director of Vernons Pools, who could prove to be the losers if the lottery takes off.

N.M. Rothschild, the merchant bank, has teamed up with Tattersalls, an Australian lottery operator, to put in a bid. Their front man is Anthony Fry, Magdalen-educated director of Rothschilds, who at Oxford always aimed for a career on the Tory backbenches.

Knight Frank & Rutley will advise on suitable outlets for lottery terminals, and the agency DMB DBB Needham, has been brought in to co-ordinate advertising. The Rank Organisation is also said to be pondering a bid. Other contenders include GEC and Thorn EMI, in association with the Tote.

No matter: a rip-roaring fight is already guaranteed. Combine the predatory instincts of Richard Branson, Michael Green, Gerry Robinson and Sir Ernest Harrison, and the sparks are bound to fly. Add the political muscle of Lord Young and Des Wilson and the lure of a £4 billion pot of gold, and the scale of the fight may know no bounds. Even the scramble for Britain's commercial television licences pales by comparison.

Curiously, given the amount of money and variety of interests at stake, the role of referee goes to only one man: Peter Davis, former deputy chairman of Abbey National. As director general of the National Lottery, he has the unenviable task of vetting the bids, and making sure the process runs smoothly.

Already, a hint of "dirty tricks" has surfaced, with brown paper envelopes stashed with scurrilous claims about GTECH doing the rounds of City newspaper offices. Some critics have singled out the un-British nature of contenders such as Tattersalls, GTECH and AWI, another American operator, arguing against giving millions of pounds to foreigners. PR budgets already add up to small fortunes.

For Mr Davis, and a cash-strapped government looking forward to a painless financial windfall, the lottery must work perfectly from day one; there is no room for error. The technical system required to run up to 30,000 terminals and provide instant back-up to the corner shop-keepers who will operate them will be far more important than pre-launch lobbying. So far, only Camelot has produced a clear idea of how the games will be played if it wins the licence. Most of the bidders privately talk of a draw live on peak-time television. A disaster, like some of those newspaper bingo competitions that have gone wrong in the past, where tens of thousands of entrants felt cheated, would be a political as well as a commercial setback.

As it stands, half of the National Lottery revenue will go in prizes, with 23p in the pound going to "good causes" and 15p to the operator. Mr Branson's pledge to give profits to charity sounds less generous once running costs are taken into account. Of the 15p, some 5p is expected to go to the retailer, up to 2p will go in advertising, and much of the rest will be spent on telecommunications and staff costs. As little as between 2p and 3p is all that may be left over.

That said, few contenders for the lottery licence can afford to ignore Mr Branson, whose knack at generating publicity can never be discounted. Indeed, his trump card may still be tucked up his sleeve. Only last week, he persuaded the Princess of Wales to name one of his new Airbus A340s. Her interest in charitable ventures is well known. Who better to draw the winning ticket on a Saturday night?

THOSE WHO ARE GAMBLING ON A £4 BILLION-A-YEAR FLUTTER



Far left: The Lottery Foundation Richard Branson and Lord Young; IBM (Sir Anthony Cleaver, chairman), JWT, . Prospective trustees: Lord Callaghan, Sir Angus Ogilvy, Lord Tonypandy, Lord Whitelaw
Centre: Camelot Sir Ron Dearing, former PO chairman (chairman), Cadbury Schweppes, De La Rue, GTECH, ICL, Racal Electronics
Left: The Great British Lottery Company Granada, Vodafone, Hambros Bank, Carlton Communications , Associated Newspapers, AWI

Dead rockers live forever

Walter Ellis asks why stars such as Jimi Hendrix, dead for 23 years, can excite more interest than the living

There are three types of middle-aged rock star: the parody, the pastiche and the pathetic. Jimi Hendrix avoided each by choking on his own vomit at the age of 27. Not only did he leave several memorable compositions behind him; more importantly he left a good-looking corpse.

Kathy Etchingham, a middle-class mother of two, who used to be one of Hendrix's lovers, still mourns his passing and is seeking to persuade the police that there was something suspicious about the circumstances in which he died. Quite why she should bother is hard to say. Perhaps she is bored. She does not appear to be alleging murder, merely suggesting that the circumstances were different to those reported at the time.

So what, one might ask? Considering the sort of life Hendrix led — an apotheosis of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll — it is hardly surprising that he died from an internal hurl brought on by popping pills.

Hendrix lived an absurdly self-indulgent life and died, in essence, of stupidity. The coroner recorded an open verdict at his inquest in 1970. Had he lived, he might have gone on to add new chapters to his musical reputation. He might even have ended up playing a riff for one of those wonderful Budweiser television advertisements.

> Wild men of rock came complete with self-destruct buttons

But I doubt it. He had been booked years before for that great super-group in the sky, made up of rock's basketcases, with vocals by Jim Morrison, guitar by Brian Jones, drums by Keith Moon and general excess by Sid Vicious. He had nowhere else to go. Hendrix and his vomit were on a collision course from the moment he heard Chuck Berry as a young teenager and swallowed his first purple heart.

More interesting is the case of Etchingham herself. Now 47, she is happily married and living in some style in the Surrey stockbroker belt. Her husband is a successful businessman and she has been variously a hairdresser, an estate agent and a council housing officer. Her life is about as far removed from *Electric Ladyland* as would be possible. There is even a Range Rover in the drive, and one senses the presence of green wellies in an outhouse, awaiting a pre-luncheon stroll to the local for a G&T.

Hendrix wouldn't have known where to begin with a lifestyle like that. He was playing for real. By now, hopelessly confused, raddled with drugs, he would be sharing a flat in Fulham with a 22-year-old model and, despite his American origins, hobbling along each year to the Brit awards in the hope of picking up a tinsel gong for lifelong achievement.

Actual survivors from the 1960s are, mercilessly, still with us and living more like Hendrix's one-time lover than the man himself. Who can have been surprised by Mick Jagger's elevation last year to the ranks of the "Great and the Good" as joint president of the National Music Day Committee?

Bryan Ferry, of Roxy Music, has a seat in Sussex, filled with Wyndham Lewis drawings and swathed in Colefax and Fowler. Phil Collins, nominally of Genesis, is a friend and confidant of the Princess of Wales, albeit better connected. Roger Daltrey, of the Who ("hope I die before I get old!"), owns a Jacobean pile in Dorset and lends his name to American Express. Stevie Winwood, once of the Spencer Davis group and Traffic, has a country retreat in the Cotswolds.

Ferry, a miner's son from the North East, who nevertheless cultivates a distinctly patrician bearing, married Lucy Helmore, daughter of a wealthy Lloyd's broker after meeting her at a shooting party in Scotland. Roger Waters, of Pink Floyd — the band which, in its bestselling album, *The Wall*, declared that "we don't need no education" — ended up husband to Carolyne Price, niece of the Marquis of Zetland.

Possibly the most successful incomer into country life is Ian Anderson, the flautist and lead singer of Jethro Tull, whose trademarks in the 1960s were playing the flute on one leg wearing a ragged coat and with his hair almost to his waist. He farms 15,000 acres in Skye, and has a second estate in Buckinghamshire, where he lives with his second wife, Shona, a niece of the Duchess of Rutland. In the 1990s, he says, a Jethro Tull concert should be like taking a girl out to dinner. "No one wants meat and potatoes followed by meat and potatoes. It's more fun to start with a dry white wine, then go on to a fish soup, a light curly salad and some salmon."



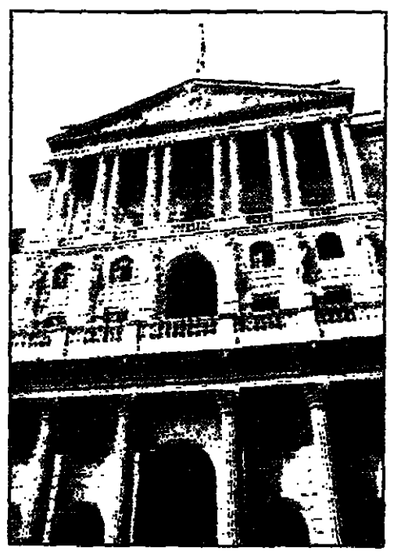
Jimi Hendrix: open verdict

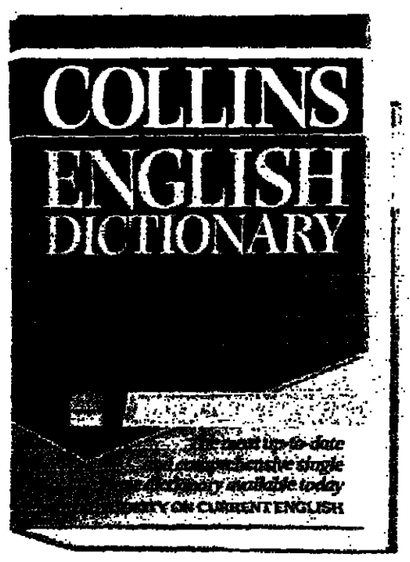
A bit rich, one might think. A bit hard to swallow. Only Paul MacCartney, richer than all of them, hides himself away. He has got the land all right, in Sussex and Scotland, but leads the life, comparatively speaking, of a recluse.

Hendrix, destined for a rendezvous with diced carrots, and the other genuine wild men of rock came complete with self-destruct buttons, and their status as icons required them to push them long before they started greying at the temples.

Still, who can blame a generation just for staying alive and learning manners? Jeeves, in the old two-seater, would know how to deal with them. "Would sir care for young Master Kennedy playing Vivaldi?" he would enquire, eyebrows censoriously raised. "Or are we more in a mood for The Doors?"

The Bank





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Why the best must survive

Specialist cancer units threatened with closure save lives that would be lost elsewhere

Patients with the more malignant types of cancer of the bronchus, lung cancer, are now living four times as long as they did 20 years ago if they are treated in a specialist unit. Many children's cancers are now curable, and all treatable; malignant melanoma is no longer a death sentence; early diagnosis and improved treatment have revolutionised the outlook. Perhaps the most remarkable figures of all are for cancer of the testes: 95 per cent of those with this disease who are admitted to the Royal London Hospital can now expect to survive. Even a generation ago the majority would have died.

Even as plans to close specialist units such as the Royal Marsden Hospital and the Hammersmith Hospital were leaked, a conference at St Thomas' Hospital, organised by BACUP, an organisation which provides information for patients with cancer, and Marie Curie Care, was being told about the inequality of treatment already experienced by patients in this country, an inequality which can mean the difference between life and death. Pro-



DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

fessor John Smyth of Edinburgh University lambasted the system which allows patients with tumours that would be amenable to treatment if seen by appropriately skilled staff to die at the hands of non-specialised physicians and surgeons.

In his demand for specialist units to treat many more cases of cancer, Professor Smyth was reinforcing the message of colleagues in Glasgow. A report in *The Lancet* on the treatment of the most malignant forms of cancer of the testes, by a team led by Professor S.B. Kaye of the Western Royal Infirmary, and financed by the Cancer Research Council, showed that the improved chances of survival in a specialist unit did not only stem from the skill of the oncologist (the cancer specialist) and the correct treatment. It also came from the cumulative expertise found in the hospital's other departments.

Even when the same drugs and the same treatment regimes were dispensed elsewhere in non-specialised units, the results were less good. Although for instance there is a 95 per cent recovery rate from cancer of the testes at the Royal London, in less specialised units only 90 per cent can hope to survive — of some importance to the 5 per cent in question.

The establishment of protocols, agreed systems of treatment, is accepted as the way to achieve the best quality of care on the National Health Service. Professor Smyth, however, says that protocols are not universal adopted. He told the conference that only 40 per cent of cancer patients were seen by experts, and that some of the others, if not given the wrong treatment, very often did not get the best. And of those who did get the best, it was sometimes used inappropriately.



ERNST HAAS/MAGNUM

The Japanese diet causes a far higher incidence of stomach cancer, but mass screening and medical advances in Japan could lead to an increase in the survival rate of stomach cancer sufferers in Britain

The seeds of hope

Stomach cancer kills 11,000 people in Britain each year. Now Japanese research could save lives, Dr James Le Fanu says

The usual medical reaction to a patient with stomach cancer is one of regretful despair. The only hope of salvation lies with the surgeon, but as the tumour is usually far advanced, too often he ends up opening and closing the abdomen, having concluded it is inoperable. The statistics tell it all: only 5 per cent of patients survive five years.

However, the situation has recently changed dramatically and the survival rate of research cases has soared to 70 per cent. Such a phenomenal change in prognosis, one might imagine, could have been achieved only by some breakthrough, such as potent new anti-cancer drugs.

Not at all. The changing prospects for stomach cancer have been achieved by an ordinary consultant surgeon, Mr Henry Sue-Ling, working in Leeds, who became convinced that progress lay simply in a more systematic application of current knowledge.

"Back in the 1970s, I looked very hard at the appalling results with stomach cancer and I felt sure it must be possible to improve on them," Mr Sue-Ling recalls. He turned for inspiration to Japan where stomach cancer is so common that there is a mass screening programme, using the fibre optic endoscope. This permits the lining of the stomach to be thoroughly scrutinised and any areas which look suspicious can be biopsied. The cells are then examined under a microscope for evidence of malignant change. The Japanese have also pioneered a radical surgical operation where, in addition to removing the cancerous part of the stomach, they methodically excise all the lymph nodes to which the cancer might have spread.

With this two-pronged attack a third of stomach cancers are detected at the earliest stage, and all but 10 per cent are cured by surgery. Stomach cancer is essentially a curable disease in Japan, and Mr Sue-Ling believed similar results were achievable in Britain.

"Our results were so poor that British surgeons had just been burying their heads in the sand, refusing to learn from the Japanese experience," he says. "We needed to go back to basics to try to diagnose these cancers earlier and to review thoroughly our surgical procedures."

A screening programme similar to that in Japan was out of the question because stomach cancer is so much rarer in Britain — although it still accounts for more than 11,000 deaths a year. However, prompt endoscopy of patients over the age of 40 with dyspeptic symptoms should pick up a fair proportion of cancers at an early stage. Accordingly, Mr Sue-Ling organised an open access service where general practitioners could refer their patients directly to hospital without the requirement that they be seen initially by a consultant.

The number of endoscopies quadrupled over a decade but, as Mr Sue-Ling had expected, the proportion of those in which stage I cancers were identified rose from 4 to 26 per cent.

Mr Sue-Ling also decided to adopt the radical surgical techniques pioneered by the Japanese. Though apparently logical in view of the better results obtained, this was not without its problems. Not only is the operation very arduous, taking up to four hours to perform, but British patients, on average, tend to be 11 years older with a higher incidence of obesity, diabetes and heart disease. The initial rate of post-operative mortality and complications proved to be unacceptably high, and although this has improved with greater experience, it still does not compare with those in Japan.

Nonetheless, Mr Sue-Ling has been vindicated. His results, published in the *British Medical Journal*, are described by a fellow surgeon, David Kerrigan of Manchester Royal Infirmary, as "outstanding". Two-thirds of patients who undergo a curative resection now survive for five years, and in those with stage I disease the figure is an astonishing 93 per cent.

"The traditional British view of stomach cancer as a fatal disease is out of date," Mr Sue-Ling says. "The results of surgery now approach those found in Japan."

Much remains to be done. The most successful anti-ulcer drugs such as cimetidine are proving an impediment to making an early diagnosis. Too frequently, the busy family doctor will issue a prescription blindly to a patient with dyspepsia whose symptoms will improve even if they are due to stomach cancer. As a result, precious months are lost.

It is likely to prove more of a problem when cimetidine becomes available without prescription from the local chemist at the beginning of next year. Then people will be able to treat themselves without bothering first to seek a medical opinion. "Much greater efforts are needed at educating both doctors and the public that the onset of pain, dyspepsia or heartburn in patients over the age of 40 must first of all be thoroughly investigated," Mr Sue-Ling says.

His second guideline is that patients with stomach cancer should be seen and operated on in specialist centres. It is no longer acceptable, he says, for a general surgeon working in a district general hospital, who perhaps sees only three or four cases a year, to have a go at operating on a potentially curable case of stomach cancer. Technical expertise seems crucial not only in getting the best results but in keeping unfortunate complications to a minimum.

Just as Mr Sue-Ling's success was based on a challenge to the received wisdom of the surgical treatability of stomach cancer, so an even greater prize — the prevention of the disease — is promised by a re-examination of its possible causes.

Traditional medical teaching has attributed a much higher incidence of stomach cancer in Japan to diet, and in particular to the excessive consumption of salt and pickled fish. A steady decline in stomach cancer over the last few decades has been traced to the westernisation of the Japanese diet, but this seems unlikely as stomach cancer has also been declining in the West, where dietary patterns have remained essentially unchanged.

A much more plausible culprit is the organism helicobacter pylori, which resides in the lining of the stomach wall. A study of 13 countries has shown a marked correlation between the incidence of stomach cancer and the prevalence of antibodies to helicobacter in the population. Infection seems to be a particularly strong risk factor for women. Part of the decline in stomach cancer throughout the world might therefore be attributable to the much wider use of antibiotics. And it is foreseeable that the number of cases will fall even more rapidly in future.

Is religion a healthy habit?

Adopt the ascetic lifestyle of a monk — you could find you live longer

In the past two months, the medical journals have contained several unusual papers on the effects, both positive and negative, of religious beliefs on health.

First, *The Lancet* carried a paper showing that Chinese-Americans were more likely to die in months indicated as significant by Chinese astrology, but only if they believed in the principles of astrology — Chinese non-believers were immune from this effect.

Last month, the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* carried a curious paper from researchers in Melbourne. People with strong religious beliefs had lower than expected rates of cancers of the rectum and colon, even taking into account such factors as smoking and drinking.

Perhaps the most intriguing was a paper in the current *American Journal of Epidemiology* reporting a study of the health of Dutch monks belonging to the Benedictine and Trappist orders.

The Benedictine order began in the sixth century when Benedict founded the Abbey at Monte Cassino. His regime of piety, discipline, work and contemplation was an oasis of calm in a Europe entering the Dark Ages, and spread rapidly.

The Benedictine order has changed remarkably little in succeeding centuries, and still attracts adherents. As well as monks entering a life of spirituality, many lay men and women still go on short retreats to escape the pressures of modern secular life.

Medical researchers have been interested for some years in the health of religious groups such as monastic orders and fundamentalist Christians.

The reason is not so much what such groups do, but what they do not do. The Benedictines, for example, discourage smoking and drinking. Although their Trappist colleagues follow strict diets, they do not follow a rule of total silence, as many believe. They do discourage idle chatter.

Not surprisingly, studies of these and other religious orders have shown that an ascetic lifestyle is associated with longer life expectancies than those of the rest of the less abstemious population. For example, it is established that Mormons have lower than expected death rates from heart disease and cancer, as do Seventh Day Adventists and the Old Order Amish.

However, what is not clear is the quality of life in those additional years earned by abstaining from such lethal habits as smoking and drinking. This was the topic studied by researchers at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, who looked at 134 Dutch monks of the Benedictine and Trappist orders. The monks were, on average, 63 years old and had been in the order for 40 years. The researchers asked the monks about their general health, chronic illnesses and general disability.

The results were compared with data from the "normal" Dutch population of equivalent age and education. Overall, the monks were as healthy as the non-religious "control" subjects. As predicted, they were less likely to suffer from heart disease and chronic bronchitis.

Surprisingly, they were more likely to experience migraine, severe headaches, arthritis, rheumatism and sinusitis. Furthermore, they were twice as likely to experience difficulties in completing tasks such as dressing, walking and climbing stairs.

The results brought to mind a joke first popularised by Clement Freud (although he blamed it on a "third rate comedian in Sloane Square") — "if you give up smoking, drinking and sex, you don't live longer, it just seems longer". Well, not quite. You live longer, but at the cost of higher rates of disability.

These findings have a relevance beyond the monastic world. For some years, health promotion advocates have argued in favour of the "compression of morbidity". The idea is that health promotion leads not only to increased longevity, but also to a better quality of life, summed up in the slogan "add life to your years, not just years to your life". This rather optimistic position is not supported by the Dutch findings.

However, the contemplative life still offered advantages. St Benedict's original rules for his order stated that "Before all things, and above all things, one must take care of the sick". The researchers noted that the monks looked after their old and sick colleagues with devotion. Old monks who, in other circumstances, would have been consigned to nursing homes or long-stay hospitals, continued to live in the monastery.

Benedict also wrote that "grumbling is the greatest sin". About 1,400 years later the researchers noted that even though the Benedictine monks had more physical problems than the average Hollander, they were less likely to complain, and more accepting of their disability.

SIMON WESSELY



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Benedictine monks: abstinence can be a blessing

Monks are less susceptible to heart disease but more likely to get migraines and rheumatism

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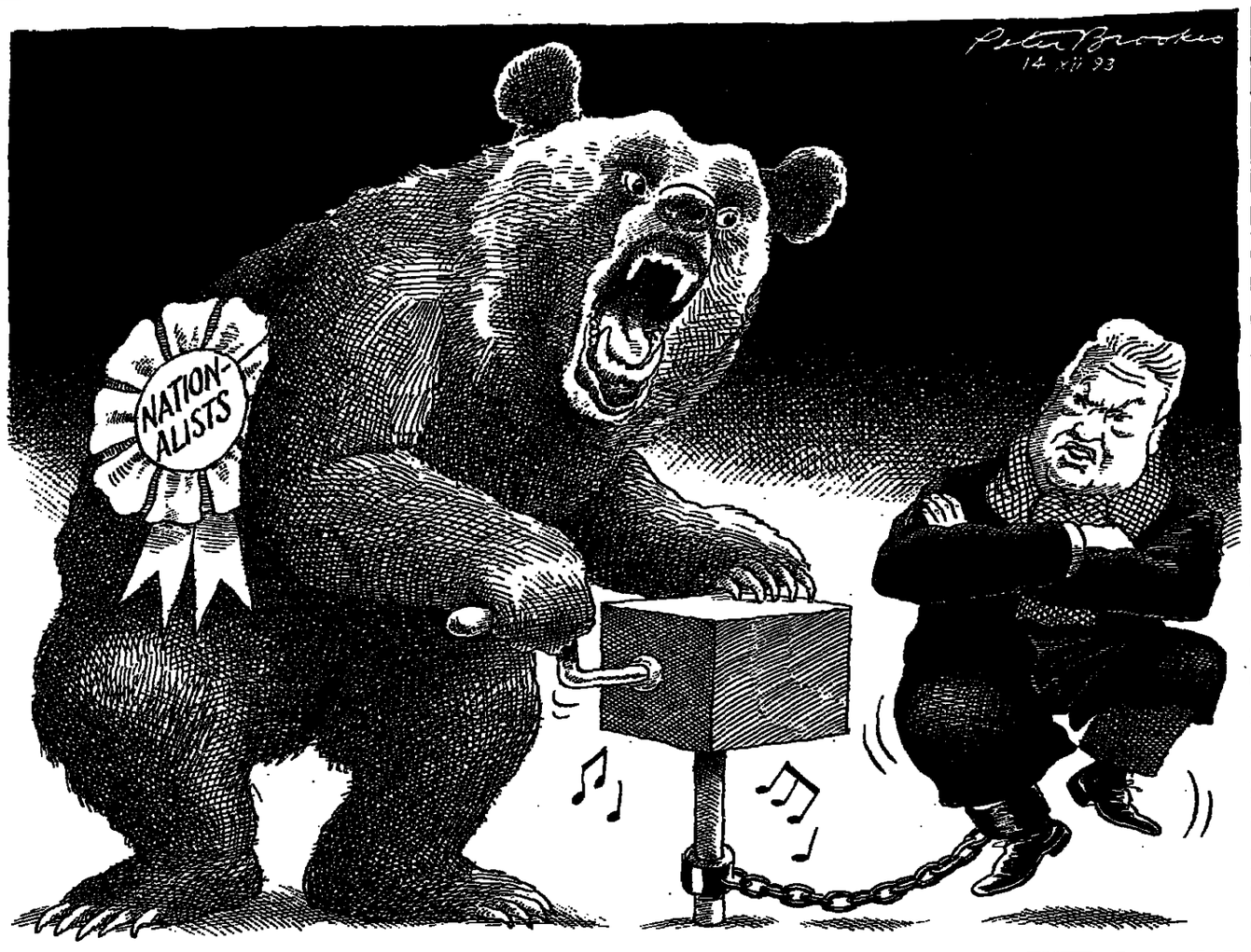
■ As I was coming down the stair, I met a man who wasn't there...

If the build-up to Christmas is depressing for no other reason, it is because Ambridge is annually gripped by showbiz fever. Rural readers will no doubt assure me that English village life in Advent really is abuzz with pantomime rehearsals and sheet-music distribution, and I suppose I will have to believe it. But the thought of Jill Archer efficiently running up yet another dozen chorus-line costumes on her Singer treadle, of Bert Fry practising his basso profundo in the byre, of Linda Snell bustling importantly with clipboard and Tiggy-whistle makes me shake my head with genuine sadness. There are several reasons. First, it is essentially the same story every time (although this year, admittedly, the panto has been cancelled in favour of the even duller concert); second, the annual repetition reminds me of my own mortality; third, I don't believe in this universal urge to leap on stage in a funny suit; and fourth, it gives me the shuddering Christmassy abdabs to think of the lights going up after the show each year to reveal a silent audience of — what?

Much has been made of the popular "unheard" characters in *The Archers* — such people as Higgs, Shane and Pru Forrest, who neatly contrive to pop out suddenly ("He was here a minute ago — ") to check the Bentley, the quiche, or the victoria sponge, and so avoid contact with the listening public. But only at Christmas does one become powerfully aware of the Ambridge plebs — that mob of mute, unnamed, disenfranchised villagers who must surely constitute the bums on seats for each miserably jolly extravaganza the Ambridge nobs can dream up for their delectation. *Who are they, these faceless inferiors? What does it feel like to be valued only for one's bum?* The rest of the year, they patronise the village shop, use the services of the doctor and vet, buy pints of Shires in the Bull, and take early morning swims at the Grey Gables health club — and presumably don't feel particularly second-class or invisible. But at Christmas, as they shuffle into that village hall, sit down and open their programmes, their wraith-like howls of bitter dismay must be audible all the way to Borchester.

I was put in mind of these non-people when reading yesterday of the nine-year-old Shetland schoolgirl whose mother is keeping her at home because of a disagreement with the head teacher. Nothing remarkable in that, you might think, until you discover that the girl (poor thing) is the real-life equivalent of the Ambridge nobs. If this school has a panto, she stars in it automatically. If it has a hockey team, she is its captain and goalie. And if there is a maths test, she sets the standard. She is, in short, the only child at the school; and no wonder she is having problems. Other children can stand at the back when netball teams are picked; they can bend down and tie up their shoelaces. Not this girl. For her, there is no hiding place; she is forever in the spotlight. And every time the English teacher says, "Now who's going to read aloud this morning?", she is obliged resignedly to raise her hand, otherwise the whole pedagogic caboodle crumbles instantly to dust. On speech day, when she wins all the prizes but nobody claps, she must dearly wish for another life.

Where the intense weirdness comes in, however, is that initially she was sent home for misbehaviour — a very strange case of *pour encourager les autres*. Sometimes she must dream of classmates — of skipping while other people turn the rope, of marble games in which you lose the yellow one and go home crying, of rough children pushing you into a hedge for no reason — just as Phil Archer must sometimes think that in a place like Ambridge there must be some other muggins who can play the joanna. But at least she knows that having been sent home, she is not the subject of a whispering campaign. One just wonders whether her head teacher, having evidently lost his patience with the girl and said "You! Trouble-maker! Out!" really felt much better when she'd obeyed, shrugged and gone home. Is the school running more smoothly now? Do the nativity play rehearsals progress without incident? In this Shetland school, as in Ambridge, I suspect you may eavesdrop on the festivities this year, and hear the famous eerie sound of one hand clapping.



Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!

Twenty years may pass before we hear Berlioz's *The Trojans* again, but the glorious memory will last much longer

Bernard Levin

Once in a lifetime perfection calls. Hearing the call, though not at first believing it — who would? — I hastened to the Barbican Centre. I was greeted by scaffolding without and within, and my heart leaped with joy, convinced as I was that that dreadful place was being pulled down at last. Alas, my hopes were dashed: the scaffolding signalled only that work was going on to make it even uglier and more shoddy.

But inside the auditorium was glory. I have been music-going for some 47 years, and I am determined to see the 50. But if I am cut off before the golden anniversary, I shall wink as they lower me into the ground, and the wink will mean that before I popped off I had heard perfection.

Conductors and instrumentalists inevitably have favourites, works that they play again and again, making more and more recordings of the beloved. Anyone who knows anything about Colin Davis also knows that one of his very greatest musical loves is Berlioz, and in particular *The Trojans*. But it is the devil's own job to mount the mighty masterpiece, so great are the demands upon anyone trying to do it; for year after year Colin has left it gathering dust, though he must have yearned to blow it off and embrace his *ferne Geliebte*.

No, this work was not cursed at its birth by a powerful demon, who decreed that it could be heard only once every thousand years. True, the logistics of putting it on are formidable; nevertheless, for all difficult works, a determined conductor will find the way to put it into his schedules once or twice a year, and take it round the world. (I heard it, this *cathédrale engloutie*, only a few days ago, and so entranced was I, that I went back two days later to hear it again.)

Well, then, why do we hear *The Trojans* so rarely, and why does not Colin do it twice a week? There are, I believe, two reasons. The first is because it demands great forces: a very substantial orchestra (six harps for starters) and an equally massive chorus, 18 soloists, a hall which is worthy of the work and which can also cope with what might be called special effects, a cast which can sing in French, and — not least — sufficient sponsorship, for not even packed halls (which they were) could cover the cost of such a mighty outlay.

The second reason that Colin Davis cannot give *The Trojans* whenever he wants to is that he will not compromise: he will not shrink the orchestra or chorus, he will not engage singers whose hearts are not in the work, he will not go on without ample — what *he* thinks ample — rehearsal time, and he will not cut a bar of the music.

And so we made our way to the Barbican, to hear one of music's greatest masterpieces. I had not seen the work for at least 20 years, when it was last mounted at Covent Garden. But those words "seen" and "mounted" have a sad ring in this context, for you must now know that Colin Davis's version took place not on an operatic stage, where it should be, but on a concert-hall platform, and instead of gorgeous and realistic sets and costumes there was only the familiar black and white, leaving the lady soloists to add some colour. (By common consent, Markella Hatziano, singing Dido, won the ladies' costume event, with a huge, flowing silk skirt the colour of which my companion assured me was a mixture of claret and crushed raspberries.)

Even before we entered the auditorium, we realised that nothing had been spared to make the occasion as close to perfection as possible, for the sumptuous programme was not only crammed with genuinely useful matter (*O si sic omnes!*), but included the entire libretto in both French and English (in a new translation) and on top of that included every scrap of the stage directions, so that we knew at every moment what Berlioz was conjuring up. All that heroic work, by the way, was done by David Cairns, Colin's *fidus Achates*.

There was more integrity to come, much more. Concert performance or no concert performance, in the hunt scene Colin split the off-stage horns and sounded them alternately, giving a haunting feel that became almost three-dimensional, and as the immense coda rose to its mighty conclusion, ten more brass emerged from the wings to sound the last fanfare of the Trojan March.

Superlatives run out; for a musical experience the equivalent of this one, I have to go back to 1961 and the Klemperer *Fidelio* (come to think of it, David Cairns and I went night after night to those unforgettably moving performances). But assuredly, from the first bars, it was clear that this experience would be something to treasure always.

With Jane Henschel's huge and glittering mezzo voice in the first part of the work, we heard a magnificent series of sounds in the huge part of Cassandra, as in the second half we gasped at the gleaming voice of Markella Hatziano; but neither Colin nor the singers would have been thus satisfied. Yes, this was a concert performance, but everyone in the work had clearly been coaxed into making it into the magical opera that it is, and from Cassandra's first warning cries we knew we would be going down into the most profound depths of beauty and pain, glory and loss, heroism and betrayal, love and despair, and throughout we were also going up into the most uplifting heights of success and failure, grandeur and intimacy, destiny and humanity.

The story of the siege of Troy and what happened when it ended is one of the longest-lasting tales in history; countless versions exist, countless endeavours have been tried to get into Homer's mind and Virgil's, and it was inevitable that one day there would be an opera. And as our hours went by (feeble stayaways who thought it would be too long to digest — *The Trojans* averages some 50 minutes an act — should try the works of that celebrated German whose name I promised not to mention today, who would have been amazed at such compression), we were drawn further and further into a work which was made of legends, symbols, gods, heroes, riddles and inevitabilities, yet never once fails to remain entirely human.

The forces assembled for the work had, obviously, been rehearsed to the last bar, but that could have been expected. What was so heartening was that all the participants, from the leading soloists to the last member of the chorus, had been seized by the realisation that something utterly out of the ordinary was afoot, and all the participants likewise had determined to give of their uttermost. Orchestral players are notoriously cynical, and there is no reason to suppose that the LSO is different; but here, there was nothing on their faces but happiness, excitement, a tremendous glee, and above all, the determination to play like gods for their hero and his love. (I felt it most dramatically in the pizzicato passages — no lackadaisical plink-plonk, but the realisation that even that tiny thing had a place, and every player a part in it.)

Mind you, Berlioz had a hand in all this. Years ago, I had succumbed to the widespread belief that although Berlioz could write beautiful and glorious music, he could also write a great deal of what might be called vamp-till-ready. If anything of my heresy remained, this performance would have driven it into nothingness. Perhaps the most wonderful thing about this experience was that there was hardly a bar that was not either beautiful or meaningful or both. Anyone can marvel at the love-duet, thrill at the hunt, be stirred by the beauty of Hylas's song; but again and again a mere change of key, a brief snatch of recitative, even a wordless sound from the chorus, reinforced the composer's mastery. As for change of key, at one point Berlioz puts the March into the minor, whereupon my hair began to fall out with the surprise, and a gentleman a few rows in front of me swallowed his false teeth.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, that is, that such things can be! And not only can they *be*, but they can come in the form of perfection. Perfection, that is, not just in the performance — though it was indeed perfect — but in what had to happen to make it perfect. How long ago did Colin pick his cast and put them under contract? How long had he been rehearsing them? How long, indeed, has he been dreaming of this mighty achievement? And for that matter, how could he be certain that the hall would be full?

O, but it was. I said perfection. *didn't I?*

Ukraine is the test for Russia

Lawrence Freedman on Yeltsin's army

Before Russia's election results were announced, there was evidence that its relations with the West had become more difficult. The choices that appeared wide open when the Communist Party fell from power and the Soviet Union was dismantled are being narrowed. Those reformist Russians who warned that the country could only be modernised under the direction of benign authoritarianism now have a chance to prove their point. If they fail, an unambiguously malign authoritarianism waits in the wings.

The language of Vladimir Zhirinovsky's far-right Liberal Democrats may be lurid, and the renewed claim to Finland may be novel, but it would be a mistake to assume that his foreign policy themes are well outside the mainstream. Russia has not come to terms with the loss of the Soviet Union. Concern for the 25 million Russians living within the old borders provides a rationale for meddling in what is now described as "the near abroad". The economic dependence of the former republics, especially when it comes to fuel, is being used to recreate a Russian sphere of influence.

Russian troops, often apparently responding to local imperatives more than central commands, are engaged in a number of operations around the country's periphery. Moscow has asked that they be given a UN imprimatur and resources to dignify them as just another form of "peacekeeping". The request has been turned down, but it nevertheless reflects President Yeltsin's confidence that his new Western friends will not interfere in the reassertion of Russian strength. More evidence of this assertiveness came last week when Yeltsin visited Brussels to tell these same friends that they must not extend Nato membership to Poland, Hungary or the Czech Republic.

It has been tempting to explain this as an unfortunate consequence of Yeltsin's debt to the generals who rescued his presidency, as if only this prevents a return to the happy days of 1990-91 when Moscow's foreign policy took its cues from the West. The reality is less comforting: Russia is too substantial and too awkwardly located to fit into a European order designed in Brussels.

Few in Nato are yet prepared to act on the basis of the more pessimistic interpretations of recent events. If the alliance starts to isolate and contain Russian power, it risks throwing away the strategic gains of 1989. If Russia is treated as irredeemably hostile, that is how it will behave. There remains some hope that responsible behaviour will be reinforced if the country is allowed to regain its inner equilibrium and self-respect.

Nato members have no intention of entangling themselves in the more disputatious parts of the Caucasus and Central Asia. So they are not in a strong position to complain when Russia acts to calm disorder on its borders and prevent further fragmentation within. As long as Yeltsin is in charge, there is some prospect of reasonably friendly and constructive relations. If he is snubbed by the West, there is little doubt that he will be followed by something far more reactionary. Russia is, after all, still a nuclear power.

It will be many years before the Russians can begin to renew their old military menace. The Russian army is a shadow of its former self, with a demoralised officer corps, absent conscripts and deterioriating equipment. It can take on some of the problems around the Russian periphery and even defend nationals left behind by the contracting Soviet empire: but even if it cherished the dream, it completely lacks the capacity to move westward.

So there is no need to panic. If the economic reformers succeed, then Moscow will gain its own stake in a stable Europe underpinned by trade. But if they fail, it is unlikely to be in a fit state to do anything, and will probably need to cope with further internal disintegration, rather than plan for outward expansion.

All this points to a continuation of a "wait and see" policy. Such an approach, however, does scant justice to the dynamics currently at play and the fears developing among Russia's neighbours. In particular, there is an urgent need to bring into the calculations the Ukraine, which has started to slide into a potentially terminal economic decline while international attention has been distracted by the Russian elections.

By failing even to begin economic reform, the government in Kiev has produced a truly catastrophic local situation, dominated by hyperinflation and shortages. By overplaying its hand with the nuclear arsenal left over from Soviet days, it has tried the West's patience and reinforced Russian hardliners. This is a country comparable to France in territory and population, so if its condition does prove terminal, a major disaster will ensue. This would be far more significant than Yugoslavia in shaping the new Europe.

At best it would be handled cooperatively through multilateral institutions, and without external military involvement or encouragement to secessionist movements. At worst there could be great violence and massive human distress. It will be a testing time for all, but especially for the new Russia, for here will be a chance to demonstrate that it still aspires to a responsible position within Europe and is not impelled to act like an opportunistic bully.

The author is professor of war studies at King's College, London.

Brooke no complaint

JOHN PATTEN'S criticism of "yobbo" Balliol undergraduates who laid siege to his Oxford constituency surgery touched a raw nerve with the family of one of his Cabinet colleagues. For Chris Brooke, the hard-left nephew of Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, is the new president of the college's junior common room.

Now Brooke *fils*, son of High Court judge Sir Henry and grandson of the late Lord Brooke of Cumnor, has retaliated by castigating Patten in a decidedly outspoken fashion.

"Several of my friends were on the march," he says, "and they are among the least yobbish people in Oxford I know — certainly less yobbish than the average Conservative student politico with whom Mr Patten frequently consorts."

In case that is thought to be too mild he adds: "Just as he [Patten] is ashamed to represent some of us, many of us are ashamed to be represented by him in Parliament."

He vows to continue to fight the Education Secretary's plans to scrap the National Union of Students. Balliol's JCR has passed several almost unanimous motions against the plans at well-attended meetings.

With a note of regret, the JCR president discloses that he was not himself part of the demonstration in Patten's constituency — "although perhaps I should have been" — but went to watch the Balliol 2nd XV instead. In any case, most of his college contingent were female students waving the JCR banner. Wadham College members, he says, were the worst offenders. However he is sorry if, as claimed, one of Patten's elderly constituents was distressed.

And relations *en famille*? Not surprisingly, when Chris and Uncle Peter meet, they stick to talking cricket.

Of the Devil's party

BARONESS THATCHER'S trusted party treasurer for 15 years, Lord McAlpine, has been raking over old ground. The raffish peer has just completed his first political novel, promising Francis Urquhart-style skulduggery and, most importantly of all, vividly identifiable characters.

McAlpine proudly delivered the draft last week to Faber, which published his other work, *The Servant*, a manual of political courtership written in the style of Machiavelli's *The Prince*. "This is an epistolary novel, and a development of the book I have done before," explains the corduroy-clad lord between mouthfuls of mini-hamburgers at a convivial Christmas party.

Hinting at similarities with C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*, in which a young devil receives advice from an older devil, McAlpine adds: "It's about an uncle in political office who sends letters of advice about politics to his nephew." Needless to say, the nephew heeds the punchy advice and becomes prime minister.

McAlpine has never hidden his disagreements and disappointment with the present regime, nor indeed his enduring respect and admiration for Lady Thatcher. But he will not be drawn about the identity of his characters.

The publisher, however, was slightly more forthcoming. "There are clearly allusions to political figures past and present," says his editor. "And you might indeed recognise John Major ... but it's fiction, and things are not in black and white."

● *A special model railway system, complete with Flying Scotsman, will be auctioned later this week by Onslow's in London. It is part of the mass of railway memorabilia collected by the late Tory MP Robert Adley, one of the fiercest critics of the Government's BR sell-off. Possibly a suitable Christmas present for John MacGregor.*

Manners, boys

ALEXANDER CHANCELLOR, who disclosed on this page in the summer that he had received a letter from a writer compiling a book on homosexuality at Eton, will be relieved to know it is not only his *alma mater* that is being targeted. The author, Alisdare Hickson, has broadened his scope to include Wykehamists.

Hickson has written asking for former Wykehamists' "quotable opinions" on "the prevalence of hero-worship, crushes and romantic friendships between boys; the prevalence of homosexual relationships and/or homosexual experimentation; the attitude of the headmaster and other staff to homosexuality; and the attitude of the boys to homosexuality". He also aims, he writes, to include "a little light relief for the reader: examples of schoolboy humour, the embarrassing interception of *billets doux*, pep talks by one's housemaster — that sort of thing".

One Wykehamist who has received the letter is Viscount Whitelaw. He will not be replying. He says: "I was there from 1931 to 1936 and I do not think he, or you, can expect me to comment. Winchester was no different from any other school, but heaven knows, it is rather a long time ago. I should think it happens at all schools, although it was much more undercover then than it is today. No one would have dared write such a thing then."

● *Father Christmas has fallen foul of bureaucracy in the market town of Horsham. Santa, alias Dick James, was ordered out of his sleigh and into a police car. His offence? West Sussex County Council said he had permits to walk around and busk, but not to run a 50p lucky dip. He was let off with a caution. But he is anxious about his reindeer, which ran off during the incident. "I'm worried because he's got no lights — only his red nose."*

Secret message

BUCKINGHAM PALACE is preparing an announcement of considerable importance: how it plans to prevent newspapers from leaking the Queen's Christmas message in advance of its embargo. Last year, the Palace was enraged when *The Sun* broke the embargo on December 23 and released details of the Queen's reflections on her "sombre year".

But this year there are contingency plans: "We have in the past made it available under embargo between 24 and 48 hours in advance," says a spokesman. "The arrangements for the distribution of the Queen's Christmas message following last year's breach have been reviewed. We will be announcing what we will be doing, but it is likely to be less convenient for the media as a whole." A sombre year indeed ... for the royal newshounds.



هكذا من الأصل

THE MORNING AFTER

Russian voters have given the world a painful shock

The outside world must prepare to contend with a more assertive Russia whose interests may conflict with those of the West. The apparent collapse of support for domestic reforms in Russia's first free general elections is disturbing enough in itself, but it should not obscure this wider message.

The Russian political establishment has been rocked by the triumph of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the fascist and frankly imperialist demagogue whose misnamed Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) appears set to outstrip both the communists and the reformist Russia's Choice led by Yegor Gaidar. Anatoly Chubais, the liberal privatisation minister, insists that Mr Zhirinovsky' platform cannot be carried out but adds that if it were, "it will be a third world war". Significantly, however, the platforms of all 13 parties pledged to reassert Russia's power. Although most parties would achieve this peacefully, there is a broad national consensus that Moscow must "protect" all Russians and reassert its sway over the republics of the former Soviet Union.

President Yeltsin has sworn to use the new constitution, which narrowly gained the voters' assent, "to guarantee that the democratic processes are irreversible". But the vote for the constitution is far more readily interpreted as a vote for strong government than as a vote for democracy. It was certainly not a vote for reform. If the first results are echoed nationwide, the new parliament will be dominated by extreme nationalists, communists and conservatives.

That does not make Russia ungovernable, thanks to the powers the new constitution gives the president. The communists will not necessarily make common cause with the LDPR. But Mr Yeltsin and his government will have to contend with unstable, ad hoc coalitions. Mr Gaidar drew a disturbingly apt parallel yesterday with the economic instability, weak and fragmented parties and populist lures of Weimar Germany: Mr Zhirinovsky's tirades do bear more than a passing comparison with Hitler's.

Even so, Russia's anxious neighbours should not yet assume that the massive vote for for Mr Zhirinovsky means the rise of a "war party" in Russia. His triumph probably owes more to domestic discontent than to foreign adventurism. People who yearn for simple answers to the uncertainty and hardships of recent years formed the bedrock of his support. His xenophobia certainly tapped a deep vein of racism, but far more people will have been seduced by his promises of riches for all, cheap vodka, summary executions of criminals and iron rule than by his wilder geopolitical fantasies about reconquering the Baltics and Finland, still less extending the Russian empire south to the Indian Ocean, Turkey or Iraq.

Boris Yeltsin could have rallied the Russian people behind the reformers. His studied aloofness from party politics during the campaign will haunt the rest of his presidency. Yet instead of rallying the anti-fascists who, reformist or conservative, could still form a majority, his first instincts yesterday seemed to be to compromise. Mr Clinton's policy of engaging with Russia's democrats and reformers has never been more important — or more delicate to execute. As he prepares for next month's summit in Moscow, he must seek to convince the Russian president that the West understands the perceptions of national humiliation that led to this vote and will tread carefully on Russia's dreams of recovering its greatness — but only on condition that these dreams pose no threat to the legitimate concerns of its neighbours.

Russia's "near abroad" runs west as well as south; it is the West's "near abroad" too. Nato will be under even greater pressure next month to admit countries such as Poland and Hungary, but a precipitate welcome could be inflammatory. Lithuania's wise reaction yesterday was to speak of building bridges to Russia "on the basis of good neighbourliness and mutual benefit". Russia can best be dissuaded from adventurism by dialogue which recognises its legitimate interests in regional stability.

Economic aid should be linked to policies, as before. But there must be a prejudice to its continuation. The West's interest still lies in a prospering, contented Russia. Continued reform remains the best guarantee, if far from a certain one, that a prosperous Russia will not revert to its expansionist past.

ANYONE ELSE FOR LOTTO?

The great British lottery race has begun

The beauty of playing a lottery is the operation of chance. The rule in operating a lottery, however, should be the greatest possible certainty. Huge national lotteries can fall victim to fraud, breakdown, rigging, lack of interest and sheer incompetence. The government is rightly anxious to avoid all these failings. The operator to whom its regulatory authority, Oflot, grants the licence must be reliable and imaginative, charitable and commercial — a test of virtues which has encouraged some of the top entrepreneurs to enter the ring.

Yesterday it was the turn of the retail-to-airline pioneer, Richard Branson, to announce his long expected bid. He is offering to do the job on a wholly charitable basis — a strategy that has alarmed some of his more straightforwardly commercial competitors. This charity consortium, which is backed by the requisite gallery of great-and-good trustees, has been joined by IBM, which has long experience of designing encrypted networks for sensitive financial clients, and by J. Walter Thompson, an equally potent force in the marketing world. Those who hoped that Mr Branson's bid would be big in drama but small in respectability may be disappointed.

The card of pure charity must be a major opening advantage. If Mr Branson can persuade Oflot that his operation would also be as efficient as the commercial bidders, it may be hard for Peter Davis, the director-general, to refuse him the licence. There is bound to be public support for the idea that, in addition to charities getting their already allotted share of the proceeds, the operator's profit too should go to charity rather than to shareholders. From the government's point of view, to award the licence to a charitable trust could avoid the public-relations disaster of a commercial operator earning embarrassingly large profits if the lottery were to prove an unexpectedly resounding success. In Mr Branson's case, the result would simply be even more money for charities.

Efficiency, however, is the key. The new bid cannot afford a hint of the amateur-night character associated with charitable operations. Rivals, some of whom have been working for much longer than Mr Branson on the practicalities, will charge that only the most profit-oriented professionalism will guarantee the returns out of which the good causes are set to benefit. A poorly run wholly charitable bid could actually raise less money for good causes than a sharp, commercial operator working on a percentage fee. Already about 23 per cent of the turnover is set to go to good causes with only about 2 per cent in profit to the operator.

Mr Branson intends to put out to tender the contracts to supply the lottery, such as security printing of tickets, and even the operation of the games. In the other consortia, suppliers are already shareholders. That could mean that they accept smaller margins in their supply contracts because they expect a share of the operator's profits. Such are the arguments that will rage after the final invitation to apply for the licence is published next week. Mr Branson's charitable bid begins with a moral head start. The battle ahead, however, has barely begun.

TIMEPROOF TREASURE

New Haydn sonatas recover the past and enrich everyone

The rediscovery of six lost piano sonatas by Haydn, to be officially proclaimed today, stirs old instincts. There is greed, for one. The notion of becoming rich overnight by finding treasure buried in the past has been popular from the oldest folklore to car boot sales, and from the first auction room to television programmes evaluating problematic junk.

Moth and rust corrupt material treasures and antique dealers break in and steal. Works of the imagination and brain are even more vulnerable than gold. Their survival from the days before photocopiers and data banks hangs by a thread of manuscript tradition. If that thread is broken, a voice of genius is lost, and humanity is permanently impoverished. Good music is the property of all who listen, not a temporary possessor.

The Haydn sonatas carry the hallmarks of true intellectual and musical treasure. They come from the private collection of an octogenarian and before that an early 19th-century bishop, so suggesting a respectably undisturbed tradition. They were already known to have existed because Haydn kept a catalogue of the opening bars of everything he composed: musical scholars recognised his lost chords at once. Musicologically they are fascinating, because they mark the transition from compositions for the harpsichord to those for the fortepiano, the forerunner of the modern pianoforte, making possible vivid new modulations of loudness and mood. These sonatas are the first fierce stirrings of the *Sturm und Drang* of the Romantic movement.

The "new" Haydn sonatas satisfy man's backward-looking passion and longing for basic values in a changing world. They are once-and-future treasure which will now give delight to music-lovers for as long as we can imagine. Musically they are particular treasure for England, where Haydn was a great favourite and where some of his finest works were written for performance and conducted by him, sitting at the keyboard. His works are still continually performed and loved by British professionals and amateurs especially at this time of year.

The rediscovery of *Love's Labour's Won*, if the title is not just an alias for a surviving comedy, would enrich the world with lost poetry and the sequel of what happened to the parted lovers, in ways immeasurable at auction. The rubbish heap of papyrus manuscripts from Oxyrhyncus is continually reopening windows on the first gardens of Western literature. Without the single manuscript preserved in Verona, Catullus and his Lesbia would have vanished from the treasury of love poetry. Man's connection to his past hangs by such delicate traces.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Costly farce' of the Scott enquiry

From Sir Hal Miller

Sir, Simon Jenkins writes ("Whitehall's costliest farce", December 10) that the Scott enquiry is a lengthy, expensive and unnecessary procedure. I agree with him that all governments act covertly in the matter of arms sales (I was personally involved in 1978 in a Labour minister's offer of the Harrier to China).

I also accept that in 1987-88 Iraq was a bulwark protecting the remaining oil sources in the Middle East from the mullahs of Iran at no cost, and indeed some possibility of profit to Britain. So it was politic to amend the guidelines. Export of dual-use equipment could then yield further valuable intelligence about Iraq's armament and capability. I also believe Parliament should be capable of looking after its own interests in the matter.

But such analysis is inadequate because it omits the fact that in 1990 three executives of Walter Somers were charged and later, after the matter became public in 1992, three executives of Matrix Churchill were prosecuted for shipping such material to Iraq, despite the knowledge of many and the express recommendations of some in the executive. The Scott enquiry has my list of those in authority whom I personally alerted about both these matters.

Because of this I believe the Scott enquiry to be both valuable and necessary in order to protect our liberties. Until the report is to hand and we can see how these matters have been treated, it is premature to pass a verdict on the enquiry.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
HAL MILLER
(Chairman and Chief Executive),
Cosmopolitan Holdings Ltd,
Road Five, Industrial Estate,
Winsford, Cheshire.
December 13.

From Lord Mackenzie-Stuart

Sir, One expects better of Simon Jenkins than his captious article on the Scott enquiry. At the heart of the investigation is the question whether ministers of the Crown were legally entitled to suppress evidence which would have prevented innocent men being convicted and sent to prison.

"The matter in hand is political not criminal", says Mr Jenkins. I beg to disagree.

Yours faithfully,
MACKENZIE-STUART,
7 Randolph Cliff, Edinburgh 3.
December 12.

From Mr David Janes and Mr Robert Berg

Sir, We write as solicitors for Mr Ali Daghir and Ms Jeanine Speckman, who were arrested in March 1990 in a blaze of publicity for supplying capacitors to Iraq (sometimes referred to as the "triggers" case) and who were subsequently sentenced to terms of imprisonment (reports, June 13, 14, 1991).

Whilst the Scott enquiry is quite rightly considering in depth the question of ministerial and indeed prime ministerial accountability, is it not equally important that the business community and exporters, who throughout most of the 1980s were actively encouraged to export to Iraq (e.g., through government-controlled export insurance schemes), know precisely what may and may not be exported?

If there is confusion and lack of knowledge amongst ministers, civil servants and members of Parliament concerning the guidelines and criteria for export, what are exporters and indeed members of the public to make of the situation?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID JANES,
ROBERT BERG,
Janes (solicitors),
11-12 Dover Street, W1.

Wartime bombing

From Squadron Leader Jack Currie, DFC, RAF (retd)

Sir, Perhaps "idiotic" was not exactly the right word for Britain's bombing policy in the first months of the Second World War — "misconceived" or "futile" might have been more apt — but Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft (letter, December 8) criticises its use in your obituary of Sir Harry Burton only to introduce the well-worn anti-bombing theme.

If Bomber Command had been permitted (and been able) to attack Hitler's war industries, oil supplies and transport systems from the start, not only might the war have been over a lot sooner, and the enslavement and massacre of millions by the Nazis ended, but thousands of casualties among the German people might also have been averted.

Yours faithfully,
JACK CURRIE,
Westfield, Thirsk Road,
Easingwold, York.
December 8.

She's no angel

From Miss Róisín Kearns

Sir, Richard Cork (Arts, December 7) refers to Domenichino's angel as "she". Angels did not become female until the 19th century.

Yours sincerely,
RÓISÍN KEARNS,
20 Archbishop's Place, SW2.

Keeping up with today's technology

From the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg, in his timely article, "Why the chips are down for Europe" (December 9), emphasises the critical impact which science, engineering and technology are making on global competitiveness and on society generally. That impact cannot be underestimated because it is here to stay.

It is becoming daily more apparent that the processes and products can be generated, increasingly, virtually anywhere in the world and that the success of any country in the harsh global arena in which we now live is dependent on its ability to compete and trade effectively against worldwide competition.

Lord Rees-Mogg rightly emphasises the electronic information society. Virtually any material, produce or service which can be transmitted instantaneously across the globe can be competed for equally across the globe: data-handling, design, accounts, auditing. All can be dealt with and processed overseas and back on our desks whilst we are in bed at night. Over half of the communications across the Pacific go by fax. Jumbo jets full of products traverse the globe nightly.

As one supermarket chief said to me recently: "If a market supplier has an airport near by and the product is of high quality and competitively priced, that product could be, and often is, on my supermarket shelf in the morning."

We have in effect a global economy, much of which is underpinned by the discovery, application and manipulation of science, engineering and technology. That will continue and it will generate an increasingly vast market for their products.

As the UK Government's White Paper, *Realising our Potential: a Strategy for Science, Engineering and Technology* (May 1993), emphasised, we must focus on how best to use our undoubted talents and capability to best effect when set against the increasingly educated and competent workforces and improving technological capabilities of competitive countries.

We must deal with this problem in Europe as well as in the United Kingdom. Failure could lead us to the prospect of being overwhelmed, in due course, by the pressure of international competition and the societal issues raised by Lord Rees-Mogg.

Yours etc,
D. P. STEWART,
Office of Science and Technology,
Albany House,
84-86 Petty France, SW1.
December 9.

From Mr J. D. Butler

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg has failed to keep up with *The Times*. Computers certainly do not communicate with electronic pulses; he must be thinking of the teletype in use when he was editor. Digital communication at much higher speed is the style today. And there are far more people in employment in Western Europe than there were before the post-industrial age dawned. The big difference is that there are now so many women employed.

There is a ready market for those with computer skills and it is no use to go on longing for the old smokestack industries which provided the bulk of employment when his lordship was a boy.

If account is also taken of the impact of massive immigration into Western Europe, our governments have done well to keep the number of unemployed as low as it is.

Yours truly,
JOHN BUTLER,
9 Cottenham Drive, SW20.
December 9.

Moral demands on the future King

From Mr William Adlard

Sir, The moral character of the monarch and her successors is a matter of legitimate public concern and debate (letters, December 9, 11). Lord St John of Fawsley is of course technically correct to say that it has nothing to do with rights of succession (report, December 8), but that is hardly an attractive argument in favour of the monarchy.

However, our system of monarchy also places restrictions on the personal liberty and freedom of choice of the individuals within it which most ordinary people, myself included, would find intolerable. These are selflessly borne, but at what personal cost?

I seriously question whether we, the public, have the moral right to expect those in line for the monarchy to accept this, and do the best they can to achieve personal happiness, when most people in this country probably no longer believe in the religious and social values which the system was designed to preserve in amber.

Ought not those who rule us to have the same freedoms as those they rule over?

Yours etc,
W. B. ADLARD,
1 Gray's Inn Square, WC1.
December 11.

From Mr Ralph Thorpe

Sir, It may be that the luminaries of the Church observe their ordination vows with such scrupulous exactitude as to bring eternal smiles to the faces of the heavenly congregation. Whether doing so has earned them the zealous confidence of their earthly congregations may be deduced from the empty pews.

The clergy are frequently rebuked for their failure to give moral guidance or leadership. Now it seems necessary to remind them to render unto Caesar.

If they were perceived to be trying to follow the commands of the Saviour, they might attract sufficiently large audiences to justify their presence in the pulpit, whence they might cast their stones, instead of blasting off their cannon in public places.

Yours truly,
RALPH THORPE,
Durlston Cottage, The Downs,
Swanage, Dorset.
December 8.

From Mr Donald Foreman

Sir, It might be worth reminding Mr Andrew Dyke (letter, December 9) that both Hitler and Mussolini came to power by the will of the people. It took the action of an unelected King, Victor Emmanuel III of Italy, to remove the latter from power in 1943.

Unfortunately, there was no longer a Kaiser in Germany, for, as Churchill said, had there still been a German Emperor Hitler could not have come to power, or at least not remained there. It took six years of war to remove him. The United Kingdom is fortunate to have the safeguard of a constitutional monarchy.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD FOREMAN
(Secretary-General),
The Monarchist League,
BM Monarchist, London, WC1N 3XX.

From Mr James Dawson

Sir, I found the references to the woman taken in adultery (letters, December 9) salutary. The scene described, however, ended with Our Lord turning to her and saying: "Go, and sin no more" (John viii, 11). He still condemned adultery.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES DAWSON,
17 Coquet Terrace,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

From Mr Ian Chard

Sir, The last King of England who was a saint was Edward the Confessor (1042-66). Surely it is too much to expect another so soon.

Yours faithfully,
IAN CHARD,
Liveras House,
Broadford, Isle of Skye.

Whitehall pressures

From Professor John Delafons

Sir, Sir Terry Burns has advised his Treasury colleagues and other civil servants "to spend less time at the office and more time with their families" (report, December 7). I wish that permanent secretaries in my earlier years had done the same.

Certainly I worked too hard during most of my 38 years in Whitehall and so did many of my contemporaries. It was seen as a necessary part of the way to promotion, and competition was for the most demanding and politically important jobs. I doubt whether today's performance-related Whitehall is any different.

One consequence of habitual overwork, especially in the closing years of one's career, is that it can make it all the more difficult to adapt to the conditions of retirement.

It has taken me three years to find the right balance between newly acquired leisure and useful occupation. And one has to work hard to achieve that.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN DELAFONS
(Deputy Secretary, Department of the Environment, 1979-90),
34 Castlebar Road, W5.
December 8.

Put to the test

From Mr Fergus Hinds

Sir, The solution to reducing the number of marriages ending in divorce is obvious to me (letters, December 10). Instead of making divorce more difficult, make marriage more difficult.

A trial period of two years' cohabitation with a shared budget, including a holiday abroad or in a tent, should do the trick.

Yours faithfully,
F. HINDS,
3 Meadowhead Road, Bassett,
Southampton, Hampshire.
December 10.

Degrees of death

From Mr Eamon Corcoran

Sir, A report (December 11) refers to the killing of three Palestinian workers by Jewish vigilantes but to the murder of two Jewish settlers by Palestinians.

I do not understand this distinction.

Yours faithfully,
EAMON CORCORAN,
18 Farmleigh Avenue,
Stillorgan, Co Dublin.
December 13.

Albert Memorial hailed and hated

From the Director of the Victorian Society

Sir, Professor Maxwell Hutchinson argues (letter, December 8) that the arts will starve because the Albert Memorial in London is to be repaired. He is wrong on several counts.

First, he supports the specious distinction between "heritage" and "arts" that politicians are required to make in order to allocate funds to this or that department. As a grade I-listed monument *and* a great work of art, the Albert Memorial triumphantly straddles both categories.

Secondly, the sum earmarked for the repairs in 1994 is £1 million, and will come from English Heritage.

Most important of all, it is thanks to the Prince Consort's vision in establishing "Albertopolis" (plans for whose revitalisation are described by Marcus Binney, Arts, December 8) that we can go to concerts at the Albert Hall, lectures at University College and exhibitions at the Natural History and Victoria and Albert Museums. In short, the arts in England owe him a debt which, if it could be expressed in monetary terms, is far in excess of the amount required to restore the memorial.

Professor Hutchinson gives credit to Albert for launching Modernism. I suggest that this is an unjustified slur on the character of a man who clearly cared deeply for the culture, architecture and craftsmanship of his adopted country.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM FILMER-SANKEY,
Director,
The Victorian Society,
1 Priory Gardens,
Bedford Park, W4.
December 8.

From Mr K. W. Crawford

Sir, Blessings be upon Professor Hutchinson for saying what nobody else, not even Prince Charles, has dared to say in public. The only uglier monument that I have seen is the Walter Scott Memorial in Edinburgh. I thought the best thing to have happened to the Albert Memorial was the boarding-up.

Yours etc,
K. W. CRAWFORD,
212 Stafford Road,
Caterham, Surrey.
December 8.

Turkish press raids

From Lord Avebury

Sir, At 1800 hours Turkish time on Friday, December 10 — United Nations Human Rights Day — the Turkish police raided the offices of the pro-Kurdish daily newspaper *Özgur Gündem* ("Free Agenda") in Istanbul, Diyarbakir, Izmir, Cizre and Batman, arrested the management and staff, and stopped publication of the paper. In Izmir, members of the public who were in the offices at the time were also taken into custody.

This follows the application by the High Court prosecutor to the Constitutional Court on December 2 to close down the Democracy Party (DEP), whose MPs represent Kurdish constituencies.

It also follows an unprecedented campaign of murder and intimidation against *Özgur Gündem*, the only paper which has reported fully on the military operations against the civilian population in Turkish Kurdistan, and the systematic torture of Kurdish detainees, which has been highlighted in a report of the UN Committee against Torture published on November 19.

Nine of the paper's journalists have been murdered in the last 18 months, and many others have been arrested and tortured. Four newsboys who sold *Özgur Gündem* in Diyarbakir were attacked by unknown assailants with meat cleavers, and another, aged 12, was shot by a gunman on his doorstep, under the eyes of his mother.

I hope that British and other European newspapers, radio and TV will now cover the atrocities being committed in Turkish-Kurdistan, and particularly the oppression of the journalists of *Özgur Gündem*, whose voice is now silenced.

Yours faithfully,
AVEBURY
(Chairman, Parliamentary Human Rights Group),
House of Lords.
December 12.

Hard times

From Mr Christopher Fogg

Sir, The effort to make savings on the education budget has reached the sharp end.

I have just received a letter from my son's kindergarten to say that to enable the school to give each child a present at Christmas parents should send in a wrapped present addressed to their own child.

Yours sincerely,
C. FOGG,
7 Dorset Road, SW19.
December 10.

Business letters, page 25

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

ST JAMES'S PALACE

December 13:

The Prince of Wales today visited Staffordshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant (Mr. James Hawley).

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, this morning visited Willow Hall, Unit 6, Cinderhill Industrial Estate, Weston Coyney Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, later visited Woodpecker Pine, No. 3 Ellison Street, Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme. His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, afterwards visited the Railway Enterprise Centre, Shelton New Road, Stoke-on-Trent. Mr. Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

December 13:

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at the Annual Banquet of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London at Guildhall, London EC2.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, will attend a dinner at Armourers' Hall at 7.45.

The Duke of York, as Patron, will attend a dinner for the Round Square Conference at St James's Palace at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of SENSE, the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, will attend Deaf Accord's Young Deaf Achievers luncheon and awards ceremony at the Café Royal at 12.30.

The Princess Royal, as Chief Commandant of the Women's Royal Naval Service, will attend the Wrens carol concert at St Mary-le-Strand at 6.30.

The Duke of Kent, as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Applied Holographics, at Phoenix Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear, at 11.05; will visit Crabtree of Gateshead, Team Valley Trading Estate, at noon; and will open the Universal Building Society's Universal House, Newcastle Central Technology Park at 1.05.

Later, the Duke of Kent will visit Newcastle Business Advice Centre, Anderson House, Market Street, at 2.40; and will visit the St Mary's Training and Enterprise Centre, Oystershell Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, at 3.15.

Princess Alexandra, as patron, will attend a concert organised by CRISIS at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, at 8.35 in aid of homeless people.

Birthdays today

Mr David Band, chief executive, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, 51; Professor Richard Cassilly, operatic tenor, 66; General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick, 81; the Right Rev J.B.R. Grindrod, former Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia, 74; Sir Anthony Kershaw, former MP, 78.

Miss Barbara Leigh-Hunt, actress, 58; Mr Robert Mitchell, former chairman, GLC, 80; Mr C.R. Morris, former MP, 67; Mr Alberto Morrocco, painter, 76; Mr Toby Newth, governor, Exeter Prison, 56; Sir John Osborn, former MP, 71.

Dame Ruth Railton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 78; Mr Stan Smith, tennis player, 47; Mr Simon Towneley, Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, 72; Colonel Sir Cennydd Traherne, KG, former Lord Lieutenant of Mid, South and West Glamorgan, 83; Miss Rosalyn Tureck, conductor, 79; Mr Peter Williams, rugby league player, 33.

Luncheons

HM Government

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, was host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Mehmet Golhan, Turkish Minister for Defence.

Rotary Club of London

The Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, MP, was the speaker at a luncheon of the Rotary Club of London held yesterday at the London Marriott Hotel. Mr Michael Fenton, president, was in the chair.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nostradamus (Michel de Notredame), astrologer, Saint-Remy, 1503; Tycho Brahe, astronomer, Knudstrip, Denmark, 1546; James Bruce, explorer in Africa, Larbert, Central Scotland, 1730; Pierre de Chavannes, mural painter, Lyon, 1824; George VI, York Cottage, Sandringham, 1895; Paul Eluard, poet, Paris, 1895.

DEATHS: Sir John Oldcastle, alleged heretic, "hung and burnt hanging", London, 1417; King James V of Scotland, reigned 1513-42, Falkland, Fife, 1542; Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, composer, Hamburg, 1788; George Washington, 1st American President 1789-97, Washington, 1799; John Loudon, landscape gardener, London, 1843; Leon Faucher, statesman, Marseilles, 1854; Albert, Prince Consort, Windsor Castle, 1861; George Hudson, the "railway king", London, 1871.

Stanley Baldwin, 1st Earl Baldwin of Bewdley, Prime Minister 1923-4, 1924-9 and 1935-7, Astley, Lancashire, 1947; Will Fyfe, character comedian, St Andrews, 1947; Sir Stanley Spencer, painter, Taplow, Buckinghamshire, 1959; William Slim, 1st Viscount Slim, field marshal, Governor-General of Australia 1953-60, London, 1970.

Luddite riots began, 1811; Roald Amundsen reached the South Pole, 1911.



Diane Jarvis, 25, a model from Chesterfield, Derbyshire, demonstrating yesterday how she won the title of Britain's Brightest Smile, awarded by the British Safety Council to highlight the destructive effects of stress

University news

The Royal Academy of Engineering

The Royal Academy of Engineering has awarded The Jerwood Foundation New Graduate Engineering Prizes to ten outstanding 1993 university graduates. They are:

Michael Chinn, Queen's University of Belfast; Edward Elderton, Birmingham University; Claire Fraser, University of Bristol; Roy Mackenzie, Imperial College; Toby Miles, Loughborough University; Darren Sansum, Loughborough University; Adrian Thompson, UMIST; Michael Twelves, Sheffield University; Kirsten Waters, Nottingham University; Duncan White, University of Bristol.

The prizes were awarded on Monday, December 13, by Mr Jeffrey Herbert, FEng, Chief Executive of Charter plc. The ceremony was attended by Mr James Gladstone representing Jerwood Foundation.

Awards

The Federal Republic of Germany

Field Marshal Sir Nigel Banall has been awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany and Brigadier Neville Pughe the Officer's Cross of the same Order. Ambassador Dr Peter Hartmann presented them with the insignia of their awards at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of President Richard von Wiezsäcker.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League

Sir John Stokes was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell presided.

Archaeology

Meals left cooking in El Salvador's Pompeii

BY NORMAN HAMMOND

ROCK art in Mexico, a Roman city in Spain and a Maya village buried under volcanic ash in El Salvador are the latest sites to join Unesco's World Heritage List.

A Spanish royal monastery and four environmental sites in Japan, Mexico, and the Philippines were also successfully nominated. Probably the least expected, and certainly the least accessible, of these is the Maya site of Joya de Ceren, which lies a short way northwest of San Salvador.

Discovered in 1978 during building work, the well-preserved Maya houses were found to date to around AD600, and to have been overwhelmed by a volcanic eruption — a veritable pre-Columbian Pompeii.

Excavations over the past decade by Professor Payson Sheets of the University of Colorado have revealed meals left cooking on the hearth, ritual equipment stored in a small temple and the remains of a rare pre-Hispanic screenfold book, probably written in Maya hieroglyphics. The investigators have been trying to reconcile the sometimes conflicting demands of investigation and preservation.

Further north in Mexico, the rock art of the Vizcaino area of Baja California, said to be "of exceptional quality and in excellent preservation", has been listed, together with the nearby Baja whale lagoons, where grey whales breed and give birth. As tourism in the Baja California peninsula burgeons, both natural and cultural resources are coming under threat.

Several such threats were described to the Unesco World Heritage Committee, meeting in Cartagena, Colombia. They include a new bridge at Avila, Spain, immediately outside the historic walls, and conservation problems at Burgos, one of Spain's finest medieval cathedrals.

The Roman city of Merida, founded in 25BC by the Emperor Augustus, was added to the World Heritage List, as was the Santa Maria de Guadelupe monastery, with its ensemble of differing architectural styles spanning the centuries.

A unit has been set up by Unesco to tackle the problems of Angkor in Cambodia and to back up the Cambodian government's designation of the ancient Khmer capital as a "combat-free zone". An intergovernmental committee has also been established by 29 countries to coordinate salvage and conservation efforts at Angkor.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.G.C. Abbott and Miss C.L.A. Martin

The engagement is announced between Rupert George Caudwell, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robin Abbott, of Ludborough, Lincolnshire, and Charlotte Laura Augustina, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Martin, of Little Baddow, Essex.

Mr J.E. Denison and Miss S.J.R. Evans

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr Michael Denison, of Soberton, Hampshire, and Mrs Michael Poland, of Upham, Hampshire, and Sarahjane, daughter of Commander Raymond Evans, of Denston, Cambridgeshire, and Mrs Standish O'Grady, of Arreton, Isle of Wight.

Mr J.R. Symington and Miss L.J. Bouskell

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Amyas Symington, of Oporto, Portugal, and Louisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Bouskell, of Rockbourne, Hampshire.

Reception

Mr Tim Boswell, Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, was present at a reception held yesterday evening at the Institution of Civil Engineers to mark the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Business and Technology Education Council. Mr Parry Rogers, chairman, spoke and Dr Christina Townsend, chief executive-designate, attended.

Scriveners' Company

The Scriveners' Company yesterday presented the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, with the quill pen he used at the Silent Ceremony.

Royalty and morality

Hypocrisy worse sin than passion

BY RABBI DR SIDNEY BRICHTO

THERE was once in ancient Israel a king who committed adultery with the wife of one of his soldiers. What was particularly nasty was that the soldier was fighting on the king's behalf.

When his mistress became pregnant, to cover up the royal crime he had the soldier sent back from battle to sleep with his wife, so that it would go undetected. The soldier, perhaps suspicious, did not go home. He returned to the front line with a sealed letter for his general, containing instructions to leave him unprotected in the next battle. The general reported to the king that his order had been obeyed and the man had been killed.

The king then took his new mistress to wife. God punished the king, as the baby died. But the mother had a second child, who ascended the throne after his father's death.

The king of whom I write was David, the most beloved biblical personality, who is credited with composing the psalms and whose kingdom became an eternal kingdom from which came the Christian messiah, and from whose house traditional Jews still await the coming of their own messiah. The adulteress was Bathsheba. The second child was the wise King Solomon.

I tell this story to point out the incredible lack of balance and sheer hypocrisy in the present attack on the behaviour of the Prince of Wales. It is a sign of the times that the complexity of the Prince's personality, with his many virtues and faults, interests and causes, are set aside as he is condemned by some leaders of the Church of England.

The whole man has to be forgotten, because to take account of it would require a softening of the criticism, perhaps even understanding and forgiveness. But then there would be no story worthy of media attention.

The ascent of the Prince to the throne could be a long way off. Before then, the church could be disestablished. While unlikely, there could even be a reconciliation between the Prince and the Princess of Wales. The decision prematurely to go public on the issue, even if tens of thousands of others were thinking as did the Archdeacon of York, reveals a callous lack of concern at the additional pain it added to an already suffering family; and royal families suffer no less than others.

It also, as one bishop commented, demonstrates the modern tendency to focus on sexual immorality as the major sin of modern society. The Ven. John Went, the Archdeacon of Surrey, also deplored this, writing in *The Sunday Times*: "There's an emphasis on sexual sins more than others, which I think is unacceptable."

Adultery is, of course, sinful; the deceit caused by infidelity is worse, promiscuity is to be deplored: but are these greater sins than ignoring the plight of the lonely, the aged, the homeless, the children from broken families, and the physically and mentally ill who lead crippled lives with no comfort? Is it as bad as polluting the atmosphere for our grandchildren so that we may enjoy disposable luxuries, or as desisting from calling on our Government to do more to prevent the carnage in Bosnia because we do not wish to risk the lives of our own soldiers? Finally, is it worse than the example of the Ven. George Austin, Archdeacon of York, who showed no qualms about the method he chose to humiliate the son of the head of his church?

According to Jewish tradition, the Second Temple was destroyed because one Jew publicly humiliated another. The Rabbinic Masters ruled that when you shame a person in public, it is as if you had murdered him, because the bood which is his life drains from his face.

The Prince of Wales, by one aspect of his life, may be setting a bad example for which he is suffering the consequences. Sadly, his example of concern for improving the quality of life for all Britons is forgotten. What should be a cause for even greater concern is the bad example shown by the Archdeacon and those who have joined the bandwagon by their disregard for the kindness and charity which we should expect in the conduct of human relationships.

The fact that the Archdeacon is praised for his callousness and applauded for the courage in making public what most people felt best left unsaid is indicative of the corrosion of sense and sensibility in modern society, which is even more pernicious than carnal sin. The latter is the result of the uncontrollable passion of the flesh, the former the gratuitous creation of the mischievous human will.

☐ *Rabbi Dr Sidney Brichto is director of the Joseph Levy Charitable Foundation and Senior Vice-President of the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues.*

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We pray that you may bear fruit in active goodness of every kind, and grow in knowledge of God. Colossians 1:10 (REB)

BIRTHS

BUTTON - On December 11th, to Tracey and David, a beautiful daughter, Claudia Harriet, a sister for lovely Kimberley.

ECCOTT - To Kate and Keith a daughter, Mollie Kate, on December 7th at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, a sister for Ben, Joe and Sam.

LAWES - On 6th December, to Julie (née Short) and Nicholas, a daughter, Emily, a sister for Sophie.

MORRIS-JONES - On December 7th, to Cathryn (née Tristram) and Robert, a daughter, Rebecca Caroline.

MORRISON-CORLEY - On December 9th, to Tiggy and Andrew, a daughter, Georgina Mai.

NEVILLE-TOWLE - On December 9th, to Hilary (née Duguid) and Richard, a daughter, Katherine Alison.

READE - On December 6th, to Linda and David, a daughter, Natasha Sophie.

ROXBURGH - On 6th December 1993, to Roz (née Crawford) and Andrew, a beautiful daughter, Rachael Arabella.

TRAIN - On 9th December at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Elizabeth and Nick, a son, Hugh Rees, a brother for Alastair.

VAN NEDERVEEN - On December 5th, to Patricia (née Fowler) and Axel, a son, Maximilian George (Max).

DEATHS

ACQUIER - On December 7th 1993 at West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds, Stella Maris (Lalie) Acquier, née Livingstone, much loved wife of John and mother of Andrew, following a severe stroke in late September. Funeral Service at Stoke by Clare on Thursday December 16th at 3.15 pm followed by cremation at Bury St Edmunds Crematorium at 4.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to H.J. Palmtin Ltd., 60 Withersfield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk.

ADDISON - On 10th December, peacefully, Col. Geoffrey Michael Addison CBE RA aged 80, the adored husband of Madeline and father of James, Peter, Christopher and Olivia. A devoted grandfather of Elizabeth, Katy, Sarah, Jamie, James, Adam, Rhian and Katrin. Funeral Service at Chelmsford Crematorium at 2.15 pm on Monday 20th December. Flowers to Tanner's Funeral Directors "Essex Lodge", 26 East Street, Prittlewell, Essex. tel: 0702 618358 or donations to the Cancer Research Fund.

ALLEN - On 9th December 1993, peacefully, aged 87 years, Sheila St Johnston Allen M.B.E. Cremation at Lodge Hill Crematorium, Birmingham, on Wednesday 22nd December at 10.20 am, followed by a Memorial Service at Edgbaston Old Church at 11 am. No flowers by request, donations if desired to the Missions to Seamen, 137A Walsall Wood Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 8RD.

ALLISON - Peacefully and without pain in Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, Glennis Allison, dearly loved wife of Brian, mother of Jane and David, grandmother of William and sister Christine. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold, Surrey, at 2.30 pm on Friday December 17th. Flowers and all enquiries to Robert Ayling Funeral Services. tel: (0483) 67333.

BIRKBECK - On December 12th 1993, peacefully in Fordingbridge Nursing Home, Elinor aged 90, mother of Mary and grandmother of Caroline. Funeral at St George's, Fovant, on Monday December 20th at 2pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers or donations to National Deaf Children's Society c/o J & W Sharing, 15 Provost Street, Fordingbridge, SP6 1AY.

BREAKWELL - Ruth, formerly Tylden-Patterson, née Morton, after a short illness, on 10th December; at Midhurst, West Sussex. Mother of Dawn, grandmother of Thomas, Harry and Robert Addis. She will always be with us. Service of Thanksgiving at St Marys Church, Easebourne, at 11 am on Friday December 17th. Flowers, or donations if desired to League of Friends of Midhurst Cottage Hospital, c/o L.F. Lintott & Son, Midhurst (0730) 813264.

BRIDSMEAD - On December 10th peacefully after a short illness, The Reverend Keith, D.S.O., T.D. Dearly loved father of Jane, father-in-law of Roger, grandfather of Christopher. Private cremation, followed by a Thanksgiving Service at All Saints Church, Harnham, Salisbury, at 12.15 pm on Tuesday December 21st. Family flowers only but donations if desired to the Partially Sighted Society c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Funeral Director, Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 1HL.

BUTTLE - On December 10th 1993, peacefully in Hospice after a long illness borne with great courage, William Haydn, aged 38 years. Beloved husband of Susan and father of Alexander and Timothy. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Princess Alice Hospice c/o G.S. Keates Funeral Directors, 49 High Street, Hampton Hill 081-977 3127.

CHAPMAN - On December 11th 1993 peacefully in hospital, Cmdr. Paul C. Chapman D.S.O., O.B.E., D.S.C.*, aged 73, husband of Meg and father of Judith, Patrick and Simon and a dear granddaddy. Funeral Service Friday 17th December at 3 pm at All Saints' Church, Branksome Park, Poole. Family flowers only please but donations if desired for R.N.L.I. may be sent to Deric-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN.

CORLEY - On December 11th 1993, peacefully in Harrogate General Hospital, Arthur aged 97, of West Wickham, Kent, dearly loved father of John. Service at Beckenham Crematorium, Elmers End, at 2.30 pm on Monday December 20th.

CORY - On 12th December peacefully in Southampton, John Walter Edward, aged 91, formerly of Bury St Edmunds, survived by his widow, three children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Family funeral at Portchester Crematorium on Thursday 16th December at 2.45 pm. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Edmundsbury Cathedral on Thursday 20th January at 12 noon. No flowers please but donations to R.N.I.B. c/o M. Coghlan Ltd., Westbury Road, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7XU.

CROSS - On December 12th 1993, peacefully at Garrett House, Aldeburgh, Joan Cross C.B.E., Opera Singer aged 93 years. Funeral Service at Aldeburgh Parish Church on Friday December 17th at 11.30 am. Enquiries to Tony Brown Funeral Director. tel: (0728) 603108.

DUNN - (née Bainbridge) Thelma Hazel, peacefully on December 12th, at Builth Wells, Powys, after a brief illness. Much loved mother to Emerson and the late Pamela and John.

FULTON - On December 9th 1993, Jill aged 62 years. Widow of Clifford. Beloved mother of Wendy and Tony. Much loved grandmother of Lucy, Rachel, Tim, Anna and Jonathan. Funeral Service at the Chichester Crematorium on Monday December 20th at 2 pm. Flowers or donations to charity of your choice may be sent c/o Reynolds Funeral Service, 31 High Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. tel: (0243) 864745.

FIELD - On December 9th, peacefully, John Frederick, dearly loved husband of the late Pamela Gorton Field, father of Helen, Patricia, Linda and John, grandfather of Julia, Clare, Laura, Alexa, Henry, Isabel, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Poppy, Jack and Ralph. Family cremation, Friday 17th December. Memorial Service in January, date to be announced. Informal flowers to James & Thomas, Mill Road, Cobham (0932) 862009 or Ockham Church.

GODBER - On 10th December 1993, peacefully at home, The Lady Violet, aged 104 years. Loving and dearly loved mother of Joy and Daphne. She will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral Service at St Dunstan's, Mayfield, Tuesday 21st December at 11.30 am followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Enquiries to Paul Bysouth, Crowborough. tel: (0892) 655000.

GWYNN - On December 11th, Kathleen Helena, wife of the late Charles Gordon, much loved mother of Susan and David, grandmother of Katherine, Belinda, Richard, Matthew and Susie, great-grandmother of Anna and Eleanor. Funeral Wednesday December 15th at 10.30 am at St Peter's Church, Wilburton. Family flowers only, donations may be made to H.E.A.R.T. c/o A.G. Carter, 6 Fratze End, Haddenham, Cambs.

HEARNE - On 9th December after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease, Michael, beloved husband of Jennie and father of Andrew, John, Alice and Zoe. Will be sadly missed. Funeral on 20th December 2pm at Guildford Crematorium. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Hydon Hill Cheshire Home, Clockbarn Lane, Godalming, Surrey. Enquiries to Midland Funerals (0483) 860279.

HOPKINS - On 12th December, Reverend Canon Douglass, aged 89, peacefully at home with his beloved wife Marie Christine and son Nicholas. Funeral Service 1.30 pm 17th December at St Andrew's Church, Witnesy on the Hill, near Bourne. Cremation to follow at Grantham at 3 pm. A Thanksgiving Service at Peterborough Cathedral will be arranged in the New Year. No flowers, but for donations if desired, call (0778) 422240

HURD - Nancy, on December 12th peacefully at Athlone House after a long illness patiently borne. Greatly loved mother of Sue and John and dearest sister of Edith (Auntie). Funeral Service 11 am Wednesday 22nd December St Mary's Church, Bryanston Square, W1. Family flowers only, but donations if wished to Athlone House Hospital, Hampstead Lane, London N6

INGLIS - On December 9th, suddenly, Kit. Devoted husband of Ashy, proud and much loved father of Julia, Veronica and Andrew. Funeral private. Thanksgiving Service to be held mid January at Brecon Cathedral, date to be announced. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Diabetic Research and Use House (Hospice) Brecon c/o J.L. Stephens & Sons, Talybont-on-Usk, Brecon, Powys.

JACOT DE BOMOD - On December 12th, Claribel Mandy, widow of Bernard Louis, peacefully at Basingstoke Hospital, aged 81. Much loved.

JOHNSON - Peacefully in the evening of 12th December 1993, Helen Anne, loving widow of Philip, dearly beloved mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Her funeral will take place quietly in Aldbury, Herts, on 22nd December at noon. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held in the New Year in Canterbury Cathedral. No flowers please, but if desired donations may be sent to the Children's Society c/o Mrs S Wright, Parsonage Farm, Nackington, Canterbury, CT4 7AD.

JUBBER - Jocelyn Hamilton, on 8th December 1993 aged 77 years, of Canterbury, Kent. Beloved mother of Lynette, Rosemary and Charles. Funeral Service, Thursday 16th December 1993, St Peter's Methodist Church, St Peter's Street, Canterbury at 10.30 am, followed by interment at Canterbury Cemetery. Flowers to Funeral Directors, C.W. Lyons & Son, Canterbury.

KAMILL - On 9th December, as the result of an accident, Dr. Mostapha G.M. Furzerly Surgeon-Lieutenant Royal Navy, St Mary's Hospital Paddington, and General Practitioner for Camelon Ward, Kensington, London 1947-1990; Grand Officer of the United Grand Lodge of England. Much loved father of Paul and Louise, grandfather of Ben, Naima and Maddie. Funeral Service at St George's Church, Aubrey Walk, Camden Hill, London W8, on Friday 17th December at 3 pm.

KNIGHT - On December 12th 1993, peacefully in her sleep, Kathleen Eleanor, wife of the late Arthur Murless Knight of Horsley, near Eccleshall. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Eccleshall, on Friday December 17th at 11.30 am.

KREISKY - On 8th December, in Brussels, following an illness, Nicole, wife of the late Kurt Kreisky of Hampstead, London.

LOWN - On December 11th 1993 suddenly whilst walking the dogs on Pitch Hill, Geoffrey Francis aged 65 years. Loving husband of Gramis and adoring father of Georgina and James. Funeral Service at Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Ewhurst, near Cranleigh, on Friday 17th December at 2pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to World Wide Fund for Nature or the British Heart Foundation. Enquiries to Pimms Funeral Services, Dorset House, High Street, Cranleigh tel (0483) 274079.

LUND - On Saturday December 11th, suddenly but peacefully after an illness bravely borne, Beryl May. She will be sadly missed by her many friends. The funeral service will take place at Emmanuel Church, Stoughton, Guildford, on Friday December 17th at 3pm followed by private cremation. No flowers please but donations if desired to The Prolific Tuckwell Memorial Hospice or Doctor Rosion's Research Fund, St Luke's Hospital, Guildford c/o Pimms Funeral Services, Mary Road, Guildford, tel: (0483) 67394.

MITCHELLS - Kurt K. On December 4th, in Montreux, Switzerland, aged 88 years. He will be greatly missed by his devoted wife Ruth, by his sister-in-law Mariles Dentzer and his brothers-in-law Gerhard and John Kallmann.

NEWELL - Jennie A., aged 94, of Naples died Friday December 10th 1993. Born in Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, she was a resident of Barrington, Rhode Island before making Naples her home in 1976. She was a graduate of MacDonald College-McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She is survived by her son George A. Newell and his wife Elizabeth and granddaughter Amy Newell, all of London, England. A Memorial Service will be held in Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, on December 28th 1993. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Heart Disease Research Foundation, 50 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York 11202.

NEW - On 10th December 1993, Susan Angela (née Lushington) aged 61 years. Mother of Stephen, James, Caroline and Charlie. Funeral Service at St Francis of Assisi, Pottery Lane, London W11, on Thursday 16th December at 2.30 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research.

PEAKER - On December 12th (peacefully at home after a long illness) of Wardle House, Low Row, Richmond, North Yorkshire, Constance Eileen aged 80 years (former Senior Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at Doncaster Royal Infirmary), a much loved sister and aunt. Funeral service and cremation to be held at Gateshead Cemetery, Harrogate in North Yorkshire, on Friday December 17th at 3 pm. Further enquiries (0748) 884327.

PEMBROKE - On December 12th, John, beloved husband of Mary, a loving, proud father and grandfather. The funeral will take place at St Michael's and All Angels, Copford, Essex, on Friday 17th December at 2 pm. No flowers please but donations to Help the Aged, Copford Place, London Road, nr. Colchester, Essex.

PERSAD - Ben, on December 6th, at home, aged 58. Dearly loved husband of Jan and father of Mark, Mel, James and Dominic.

PETTIWARD - On December 10th, Cynthia aged 88, of Rosemary Holt, Winchester, where the kindest possible care was given. Cremation at Salisbury Crematorium on Monday December 20th at 12 noon. Cut flowers to John Sisel and Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

PINCHERLS - On December 9th, unexpectedly at home, Dr. Göldö Pincherle, beloved husband of Barbara and brother of Hugh. Will be sadly missed by family and all who knew him. Funeral to take place at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 17th December at 2pm. Cards, flowers, or if preferred donations for The Royal Free Hospital Kidney Transplant Unit to Leverton & Sons, 62A Finchley Road, NW11 7RR.

PRITCHARD - Jeremy Goring, died suddenly on 11th December. Much loved by his sons Adrian and Julian and the family. Private cremation on Wednesday. No flowers please. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons Funeral Directors, 181 Haverstock Hill, Hampstead NW3.

RAFFRAY - On December 10th, peacefully in London at St Teresa's Home, Rowland Gardens, Margo Lady Raffray, beloved wife of the late Sir Philippe Raffray C.B.E., Q.C. and much loved by her whole family. All enquiries to Kenyons (071) 937-0757.

RAYMOND - On 12th December 1993, Peter David, suddenly on the Isle of Wight, on 12th December 1993. Husband of Tina, father of Jonathan, Isobel and Rupert. Son of the late Joe and Stella Raymond. Service of Thanksgiving at St James's Church, Yarmouth, Isle on Wight, on Monday 20th December at 2.15 pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to R.N.L.I., Lisc Cottage, Norton Green, Freshwater, I.O.W.

RICHARDSON - On December 12th 1993, Fay, beloved daughter of Olga and the late Sir Henry Richardson. Funeral Service at St James' Church, Abinger Common. On Thursday December 16th at 3 pm. No flowers please but donations for Cancer Research and all enquiries to Sherlock & Sons, Trellis House, Dorking, tel: (0306) 882266.

ROBISON - On December 11th, peacefully at Midhurst Cottage Hospital, Wally, beloved husband of Brenda and much loved father of David, Peter, Michael and James. Funeral at Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, Angel Street, Petworth, Sussex, on Friday 17th December at 12.30 pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the Stroke Association c/o L.F. Lintott & Son Funeral Directors, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DQ. tel: (0730) 813264.

ROLLER - Very suddenly at home on 12th December 1993, Peter Farren, dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth and father of Michael. Funeral 12 noon Monday 20th December at the Church of Our Lady and St Ignatius, Chidcock. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Cafod for use in Africa c/o A.J. Walsby & Sons, 91 East Street, Bridport.

SHAW - On December 9th 1993, peacefully at Erasmus House Nursing Home, Midlehan, East Sussex, Nancie, beloved wife of the late Dr. Harold F. Shaw, devoted mother of Pat, Jackie and Ian (deceased) and loved mother-in-law of Peter and Susie. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Monday December 20th at 2.30 pm. Floral tributes or if desired donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund may be sent to R. Butler & Sons, 6 Station Road, Hailsham, East Sussex.

SPEER - On December 10th 1993, suddenly but peacefully at home, Kathleen Phyllis (Kit), aged 65 years. Funeral Service at St Catherine's Church, Littleton, on Friday 17th December at 12 noon followed by private cremation. Flowers or donations, if desired, to St Catherine's Church, Littleton c/o Jno. Steel & Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester (0962) 844044.

TWIVY - Sheila, beloved wife of Sam, peacefully at home on 10th December after great suffering. Requiem Mass, St Mary's, Eaton Brae, Friday 17th December at 11.30 am. Flowers or donations to N.S.P.C.C. to S.R. Dillamore, 16 Old Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.

WAREHAM - On December 10th, peacefully in the Sloane Hospital, Beckenham, Freda Mary (Mollie) née Allen, in her 86th year. Beloved wife of Will Wareham. Requiem Eucharist at St George's Church, Elston Way, Shirley, Croydon, on Friday December 17th at 2.15 pm. Cremation private. No flowers please but donations if desired for St Christopher's Hospice to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 57 George Street, Croydon.

WATSON - Martin David Curtis, on 5th December, suddenly and peacefully aged 78, beloved husband of Diana, father of Jane and Matilda and grandfather of Joseph, Christian, Naomi, Thomas and Caroline. The funeral has already taken place. Memorial Service to be held later at Little Horkesley.

WEBB - On 12th December 1993, Thomas Edwin (Ted/Teddy) passed peacefully away at his home in Kent, aged 90 years. Service of Thanksgiving and interment at St Dunstan's Church, Frinsted, on Thursday 16th December at 11 am. Flowers may be sent to R. High & Sons, 1 Bayford Road, Sittingbourne, Kent. (07956) 472968.

WOOD - Ethel Constance, beloved wife of Tim (F.E. Wood), died peacefully at her home on 12th December 1993. Funeral Service at Peterborough Crematorium on Monday 20th December at 11 am. No flowers please, donations in lieu of flowers for British Heart Foundation may be sent to John Lucas Funeral Directors, 31 Dogsthorpe Road, Peterborough.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LYTTELTON - A Memorial Service for Margaret Lyttelton is to be held at Chelsea Old Church, Chelsea Old Church Street, Chelsea, on Wednesday 15th December at 11.30 am.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

EDELMAN - Maurice Edelman M.P. Remembered today and every day with pride and devotion by his wife Tilli and daughters Sonia and Natasha.

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OBITUARIES

AIR VICE-MARSHAL GORDON YOUNG

Air Vice-Marshal Gordon Young, CBE, wartime flying boat captain, died in Kingston, Ontario, on December 7 aged 74. He was born at Chilton, Co Durham, on May 29, 1919.



Young watching gannets on an island off the Canadian coast

WHEN war broke out in September 1939 Gordon Young was reading for a degree in history at Sheffield University. Anxious to do his bit, he presented himself before an Army officers' selection board, but was told: "This is going to be a scientist's war." Nothing daunted, he next volunteered for the RAFVR where there seemed to be no such inhibitions about the value of an education in the humanities for fighting a war. In fact, Young's arts aptitudes, which included languages as well as history, were to prove very useful to the RAF later in his career when the tensions of the Cold War demanded diplomatic subtlety as well as the maintenance of technical superiority.

Young's father, a mining engineer, was working in Co Durham when his son was born, but he soon afterwards moved south to the Yorkshire coalfield. Young was educated at Maltby Grammar School near Rotherham before going to Sheffield University. After joining the RAFVR he began his pilot training in July 1940 and was commissioned in the following year. He was then posted to No 95 Squadron, patrolling in search of German submarines in Sunderland flying boats far out over the South Atlantic from bases in West Africa.

For the next four years he was continuously engaged in maritime reconnaissance and training, both in the South Atlantic and the Western approaches. Only on one occasion was he forced to ditch. A Sunderland in which he was flying Air Marshal Sir Harold Whittingham, Director-General of RAF Medical Services, from Pembroke Dock to West Africa, developed engine trouble over the Atlantic off the Portuguese coast. Young put the aircraft down safely and evacuated the crew and seven passengers to life-rafts, sinking the flying boat to prevent it from falling into enemy hands.

Picked up by coastal craft from Oporto, the airmen were interned in Portugal. But they were soon released and repatriated by the authorities of that more than friendly neutral country. Young was mentioned in dispatches for his cool handling of the incident.

He decided to stay in the RAF at the end of the war and was able to combine careers in maritime reconnaissance with some interesting experiences at the cutting-edge of the Cold War in Europe. In 1947 he learnt Russian and in 1949 he was posted to the British embassy in Moscow as assistant air attaché. He remained there until 1952. After that he returned to the sphere of maritime reconnaissance and had operational commands — of a Shackleton squadron in Northern Ireland, and of the Flying Wing at St Mawgan in Cornwall — before his Russian was put to further good use.

From 1960 to 1963 he was deputy chief of the Commanders-in-Chief Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany, based at Potsdam just outside Berlin. Though the mission was ostensibly part of friendly co-operation between allied powers occupying a conquered Germany, the realities of the situation on the ground were widely different. The early 1960s was a period of markedly heightened tension in East-West relations, particularly focused on Berlin where there had been, for some time, Soviet pressure to get the Western allies to withdraw completely. There were repeated Soviet-inspired incidents at Checkpoint Charlie, with Soviet and US armoured vehicles facing each other belligerently over the barrier. Then, in August 1961, the infamous wall was erected, cutting the city in two.

In this atmosphere, the situation of the mission was not an easy one. The East German authorities were even more zealous than their Soviet masters in harassing the movement of its members around the countryside and there were several incidents of Stasi agents obstructing its vehicles by blocking them in front and rear, and even physically assaulting their personnel. On several occasions members of the mission were attacked with sticks and stones and Young had his chauffeur shot at. He was appointed CBE at the end of this difficult time.

From 1963 to 1966 Young commanded the strategic reconnaissance base at Wyton, Cambridgeshire, before going back to diplomatic/intelligence work as air attaché at the British embassy in Bonn. After two years there he became Senior Air Staff Officer of Coastal Command and from 1969 to 1971, when he retired, he was Chief of Staff of No 18 (Maritime) Group. By that time the jet-engined Nimrod with its 12-hour endurance and 6,000-mile range had extended beyond all recognition the capacities of the Sunderland-equipped maritime reconnaissance force Young had joined in the early part of the war.

In retirement in Scotland Young served for ten years as vice-chairman of the Territorial and Reserve Forces Association for the Highlands. He was also a keen ornithologist. He had become a member of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1969 and now pursued his birdwatching interests not only in the British Isles but also in Canada, where his wife had been born, and in the United States. One of his married daughters moved to Canada and, in 1982, Young decided to settle there. In addition to ornithology, which he followed keenly, particularly on the islands of the Gulf of St Lawrence, music was a consuming interest.

He leaves his widow Pamela and two daughters.

SIR PATRICK GRAHAM

Sir Patrick Graham, former judge of the Chancery Division of the High Court, died on December 5 aged 87. He was born on November 26, 1906.

PATRICK GRAHAM was one of the outstanding patent lawyers of his generation. Both as a junior barrister and as a silk, he was highly regarded for his knowledge of the law and for his ability to master the technical complexities involved. For 12 years he was the Senior Patents Judge, in which position he made a valuable contribution to this important branch of the administration of justice.

John Patrick Graham was born at Shrewsbury, the son of Alexander Graham, one-time Recorder of Bridgnorth. He went as a scholar to Shrewsbury School and gained an entrance scholarship in classics to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he read Part I of the Classical Tripos and Part II of the Law Tripos. He held a Harmsworth Law Scholarship from 1928 to 1930, in which year he was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple.

He entered the chambers of the future Attorney-General, Sir Lionel Heald where — like most in that set of chambers — he practised primarily in Intellectual Property. During the Second World War he served in the RAFVR and at SHAEF, finishing as a group captain.

He was "Pat" to all who knew him: a man of no pretensions and sound common sense. He was also a practical man. He knew all about DIY before that term had been invented. He not only had his own workshop, but he laid the bricks himself. Although at school and university his studies had been in classics, he was interested in, and kept himself informed about, the worlds of science and engineering — even to the point of going to night school to learn chemistry for use in his practice at the Bar.

At the time of his return to the Bar in 1945, there was little work in his speciality. However, he soon built up a very busy practice. In 1946, he published *Awards to Inventors*, for the assistance of those whose technical innovations had contributed to the war effort. He appeared frequently before the Royal Commission which was concerned with evaluating claims for such innovations.

He was appointed QC in 1953 and continued his career, still primarily in Intellectual Property. He acted as counsel in the Comet enquiry which was charged with establishing the causes of the crashes which that very advanced aircraft had suffered. The resulting report gave invaluable guidance to the later builders of jet passenger aircraft.

He was a powerful advocate. He did not mind hard work nor getting his hands dirty in a factory if that helped him to learn how to advance his client's case. Above all, he was a fighter: he never gave up while he thought he still had a shot in the locker.

In 1969, at the relatively late age of 62, he was appointed a judge of the High Court and assigned to the Chancery Division as one of the patents judges appointed under the Patents Act (1949). Shortly after his appointment he became the senior such judge. He brought to his court not only his common sense, but also a real understanding of the commercial and industrial implications of the problems which he was called upon to resolve; and his practical approach to things stood him in good stead when weighing evidence and argument on esoteric topics. Some regretted that he was never promoted to the higher courts where, many of his colleagues believed, his presence would have been of assistance. He was an active member of his Inn and was delighted to be made a Bencher. In 1979 he was elected treasurer, an appointment which gave him particular pleasure.

He retired as a judge in 1981 on reaching the age of 75, the age for retirement stipulated by statute, and steadfastly declined invitations to sit as an occasional judge thereafter: he thought it inappropriate in the light of Parliament's decision about the age of retirement. He did, however, act from time to time as an arbitrator until increasing ill-health made him decide to give up: even at that time, his mental faculties were in full working order. It was a matter of great regret to him that advancing years made it impossible for him any longer to visit the Middle Temple.

He was happily married to Nan (Nancy Willson of Cambridge) for over 60 years and was greatly affected by her death earlier this year. Although not possessing his wife's sporting ability, he was a keen player of tennis and golf, and a past Captain of Porters Park Golf Club.

He is survived by his four sons.



PROFESSOR GEOFFREY HOLMES

Geoffrey Holmes, Professor of History in the University of Lancaster, 1973-83, died at Settle, North Yorkshire, on November 25 aged 65. He was born in Sheffield on July 17, 1928.



GEOFFREY HOLMES'S *British Politics in the Age of Anne* is one of those few works of history which can truly be described as definitive. When he added a long introduction to the second edition in 1987, twenty years after the publication of the first, he went out of his way to accommodate the views of those who had contributed to late Stuart and early Hanoverian history in the interim. Yet he, rightly, found little of substance to amend in the original.

He maintained that the central political dynamic of Anne's reign was a struggle between the Tory and Whig parties. The pre-1967 orthodoxy had been established by disciples of Sir Lewis Namier who held that the politics of the time were characterised by conflict among several groups rather than between Tories and Whigs. In refuting this, Holmes did not merely reiterate the idea held by previous historians that a two-party system operated under Anne. He added a third dimension, the role of the court, which offset the tendency towards such a system.

His analysis was also based on a much wider range of sources than any earlier scholar had used. Thus he was among the first to exploit the rich seam of materials in the papers of Robert Harley deposited by the Duke of Portland in the British Museum. Indeed, the discovery of a hitherto unknown division list in them accounted for his first major article. He also combed county record offices and private archives. A glance at the annotation to *British Politics* reveals how widely he trawled in his search for evidence. Yet he was never submerged in a sea of sources. The result was a work of art which stamped his authority on the subject to this day.

Its mature style was the product of many years of reflection, something virtually impossible nowadays when entry into an academic career is normally obtained by a doctoral dissertation which candidates are under pressure to complete in three years.

Geoffrey Shorter Holmes was educated at Woodhouse Grammar School, Sheffield, and Pembroke College, Oxford. In 1951, after National Service in the RASC, he returned to Oxford and obtained a BLitt. He never submitted any thesis for a DPhil, and used jokingly to say — in a characteristic metaphor from his second love, cricket — that he was one of the last gentlemen in a profession of players. The joke was on him when Oxford University awarded him a DLitt in 1978.

His BLitt thesis on aristocratic electoral influence during Queen Anne's reign laid the foundation for *British Politics* but the scaffolding for his *magnum opus* was erected during his tenure of a post at Glasgow University. Years of introducing Scottish undergraduates to English history honed his style to a model of clarity and wit — which found elegant expression in *British Politics in the Age of Anne*.

The book immediately earned him recognition as a leading authority in the field. In 1969, shortly after its publication, he obtained a Readership at Lancaster University, where he was later promoted to a personal chair. In 1983 he took early retirement from full-time teaching and was made professor emeritus.

Although *British Politics* will remain as the monument to his scholarship, his other publications cast fresh light on the cultural, economic, political and social history of what he preferred to call "the Augustan Age". His last publications, two volumes in the Longman series on British history, of which he was general editor, distilled the thoughts of a major historian on a period he had made very much his own. The fact that the second volume had to be produced with contributions from Daniel Szechi was a sign that serious illness and a series of major operations had at last taken their toll. It also attested to his willingness to co-operate with younger historians.

His unfinished works will be much lamented. These include a study of the ministry of Robert Harley and the biography of Thomas, Marquis of Wharton, episodes from which Holmes loved to relate with spellbinding vividness.

He is survived by his wife Ella, their son and their daughter.

SIR RAYMOND POTTER

Sir Raymond Potter, chairman of the Halifax Building Society, 1974-83, died in Winchester on November 17 aged 77. He was born on April 21, 1916.

AS CHAIRMAN and erstwhile chief general manager of the Halifax, one of the biggest building societies in the world, it was only appropriate that Raymond Potter should become in 1975 the Building Societies Association's chairman. As such he was the industry's chief spokesman in its often acrimonious dialogue with the Government.

Potter had an unusual background for a building society executive. Most of his contemporaries had worked their way up through the ranks after a lifetime's association with one particular society, but this was not true of Potter.

His elevation to be chairman of the Halifax Building Society in 1974 was seen as a deliberate move to provide him with the opportunity of tackling the needs of the building society movement as a whole. But his intellectual style did not suit all of his colleagues, and his two years as titular head of the Building Societies Association were marked by some of the worst publicity the societies had ever endured.

Particularly unpopular with the Labour Government of the day was Potter's policy of mortgage rationing which, despite the abundance of funds flowing into the building societies at the time, he felt was necessary to prevent the overheating of the housing market. He was also firmly against competition within the industry and implemented the system of fixed interest rates. He was succeeded as chairman in



1977 by the more blunt and populist managing director of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society, Ralph Stow.

Joseph Raymond Lynden Potter was born in Derby, the son of a clergyman, and educated at Haileybury, where he was head boy, and Clare College, Cambridge, where he read classics and modern languages. Immediately afterwards he joined the British Council. Following the Second World War, when he saw action with the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment in the Middle East, he spent several years at Chatham House with the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

In 1951 Potter joined the Halifax Building Society. His rise within the company, from inspector and district manager at Coventry to chief general manager in 1960, was swift and marked by deft handling of some tricky situations — as when, during the 1950s, the Halifax left the Building Societies Association after a disagreement over interest rates.

He was made chief general manager from 1960, and chairman from 1974 until 1983. During his time at the Halifax, the company's assets grew from £165 million to a staggering £14 billion and its membership multiplied 15 times. He was knighted in 1978.

Away from the demands of big business, Potter was a keen sportsman, playing lawn tennis and squash. He was also a lover of baroque music and choirmaster at his local church of Chilbolton in Hampshire. A practical man, he kept St Kilda's sheep rather than have to mow the lawn.

He is survived by his wife Marguerite Douglas-Jones, whom he married in 1939, and by their three sons and a daughter.

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ATROCIOUS FENIAN OUTRAGE

ON THIS DAY
December 14 1867

An attempt to rescue Colonel Richard Burke, a leading Fenian, left 12 people dead and more than 50 injured. Michael Barrett was found guilty on false evidence of the attempt and was hanged on May 26, 1868.

Yesterday afternoon an attempt was made to obtain the release of the Fenian prisoners Burke and Casey by blowing up with gunpowder the outer wall of the House of Detention at Clerkewell, in which they are at present confined while under remand, and it succeeded so far as to effect an enormous breach in the wall, about 60 ft. wide at the top, and lessening towards the ground. Unhappily, that was not the whole result. Upwards of 40 innocent people — men, women and children of all ages, some of whom happened to be passing at the time, were injured more or less severely by this modern Gunpowder Plot, of whom one was killed on the spot, two have since died, and a fourth is not expected to survive the night. Thirty-six of the sufferers were removed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where three died in the course of the evening, and six to the Royal Free Hospital . . .

The explosion, which sounded like a discharge of artillery, occurred at exactly a quarter to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when there is still daylight in even these short days, and was heard for miles around. In the immediate neighbourhood, it produced the greatest consternation, for it blew down houses and shattered the windows of others in all directions.

The windows of the prison itself, of coarse glass more than a quarter of an inch thick, were to a large extent broken, and the side of the building immediately facing the outer wall in which the breach was made, and about 150 feet from it, bears the marks of the bricks which were hurled against it by the explosion. The wall surrounding the prison is about 25 ft high, 2 ft. 3 in. thick at the bottom, and about 14 in. thick at the top.

The scene of the explosion is Corporation Row, which runs parallel with the prison wall on its northern side, and consisted of houses three stories high — some of them let out in tenements and others used for various manufacturing purposes. A very circumstantial account of the transaction was given by an intelligent little boy named John Abbot, 13 years of age, who happened to be an eyewitness, and who now lies at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but, happily, not much injured . . .

About a quarter to 4 o'clock, he says, he was standing at Mr. Young's door, No. 5, when he saw a large barrel close to the wall of the prison, and a man leave the barrel and cross the road. Shortly afterwards the man returned with a long squib in each hand. One of these he gave to some boys who were playing in the street, and the other he thrust into the barrel. One of the boys was smoking, and he handed the man a light, which the man applied to the squib. The man stayed a short time until he saw the squib begin to burn, and then he ran away. A policeman ran after him, and when the policeman arrived opposite No. 5 "the thing went off".

The boy saw no more after that, as he himself was covered with bricks and mortar. The man, he says, was dressed something like a gentleman. He had on a brown overcoat and black hat, and had light hair and whiskers . . .

NEWS

States fear rise of Russia's right

■ Popular support for the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky in the first general elections has left Russia in the same position as Weimar Germany before the rise of Hitler, a key reformer claimed as neighbouring states expressed alarm.

With Mr Zhirinovsky's Liberal Democratic Party heading for the largest share of the vote, Yegor Gaidar said: "Zhirinovsky means war for Russia." **Pages 1, 12, 13, 16, 17**

Waldegrave 'lost in Wonderland'

■ Alan Clark, the former trade and defence minister, told Lord Justice Scott's enquiry that William Waldegrave's conviction, that the Government's arms export policy could not have been changed because it had not been announced in Parliament first, put the minister for open government in an "Alice in Wonderland situation" **Pages 1, 6, 17**

Gatt cliffhanger

The Gatt world trade negotiations went into a cliff-hanging phase after Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community's trade negotiator, recommended that foreign ministers reject the latest US demand **Pages 1, 11, 23**

Haydn sonatas found

Six lost piano sonatas by the great 18th-century composer Franz Joseph Haydn have come to light in Westphalia, Germany **Pages 1, 29**

Branson's lottery bid

Richard Branson and Lord Young of Graffham launched a charity bid to run the National Lottery. Mr Branson said his bid for the £4 billion a year lottery would ensure that millions of pounds extra would go to good causes **Pages 1, 14, 17, 21**

Woman climber dies

Jane Thomas, a woman climber who was trapped on a mountain near Aviemore, Scotland, for 15 hours while her companion set off for help, died just hours after being found partly buried in snow **Pages 1, 3**

Major's Ulster aim

John Major told MPs that he was trying to secure a "balanced" agreement on the future of Northern Ireland that would bring an end to violence **Page 2**

£100,000 NHS pay

The new NHS chief executive is to be paid up to £100,000 a year despite a clampdown by the Government on management costs in the health service **Page 2**

Oliver Reed sued

Oliver Reed, the hell-raising hero of 80 films, took his appetite for playing drunken pranks too far when he tipped his friend off a 12ft restaurant balcony onto a coral beach. Reg Prince is suing the actor **Page 3**

Teenage racer jailed

Robert Hoe, 18, who killed two young sisters and maimed a third girl when he crashed his car while drunk, was jailed for four years **Page 5**

Death in the woods

A young man laid his baby daughter down in a quiet wood and killed her with a shotgun hours after gunning down her mother in the street, a court was told **Page 5**

Commons warfare

A five-day parliamentary visit to the Falkland Islands by two Tory and two Labour MPs was called off at short notice — the first casualty of Labour's declaration of guerrilla war in the Commons **Page 6**

Road to ill health

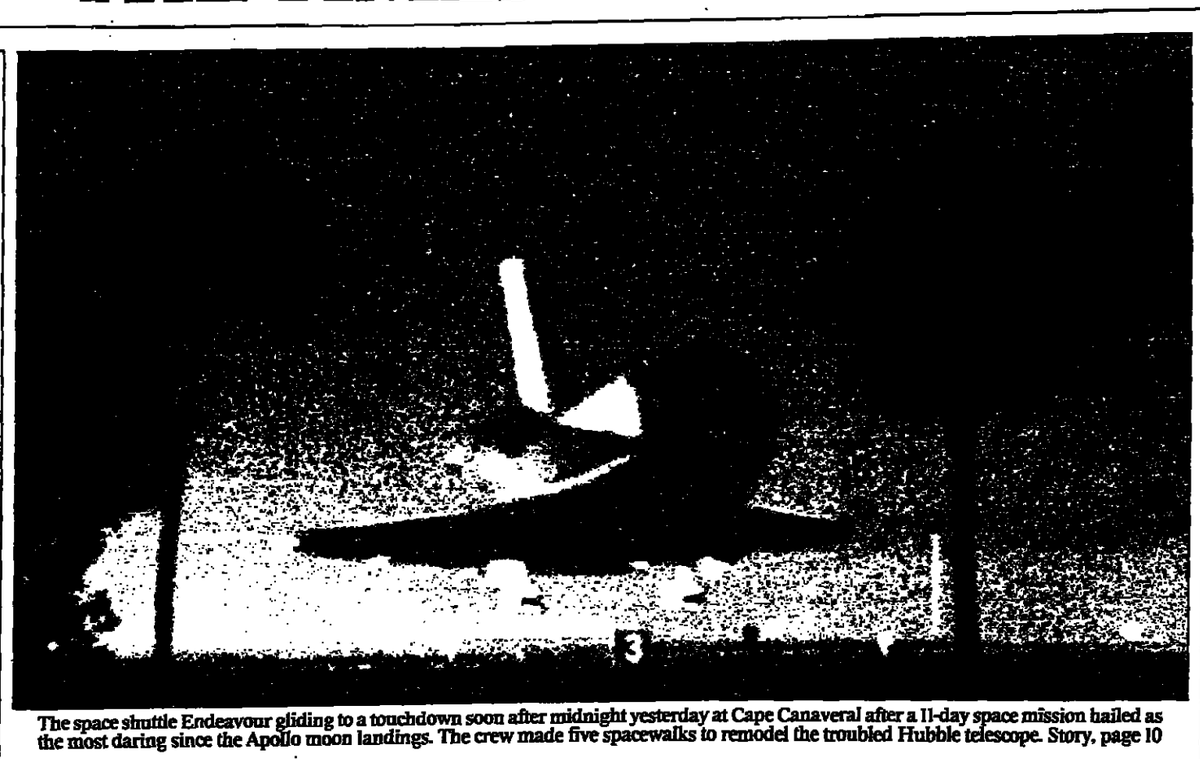
People living near busy roads are more likely to experience headaches, sore throats, breathlessness and tired and aching eyes **Page 9**

Rabin warns

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, gave a warning that the present ten-day postponement was not long enough for Israel and the PLO to settle their differences **Page 10**

Thomas's rich controller

■ The Reverend Wilbert Awdry, creator of Thomas the Tank Engine, has earned profits believed to be worth more than £5 million. Despite becoming one of Britain's richest retired clergymen, he maintains a low-key lifestyle. "I'm aged 82, crippled and chair-bound and can't get up. Good Lord, why would any one of my age wish to move?" **Page 3**



The space shuttle Endeavour gliding to a touchdown soon after midnight yesterday at Cape Canaveral after a 11-day space mission hailed as the most daring since the Apollo moon landings. The crew made five spacewalks to remodel the troubled Hubble telescope. Story, page 10

BUSINESS

Economy: Inflation seems subdued according to producer output prices, which were unchanged in November compared with October. The annual rate of output inflation fell to 3.6 per cent from 4 per cent **Page 21**

Television: Yorkshire Tyne Tees turned up the heat on the mooted alliance between itself and LWT Holdings when its chairman, Ward Thomas, said he favoured an East Coast alliance **Page 21**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 6.7 to close at 3254.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index remained unchanged at 81.5 after a fall to $1.4918 but a slight rise from DM2.5369 to DM2.5393 **Page 24**

SPORT

Rugby Union: The Rugby Football Union has rejected the latest moves, favoured strongly by Welsh clubs, to launch an Anglo-Welsh league **Page 38**

Yachting: Daniel Malle and the crew on board La Poste have arrived in Fremantle at the end of the second stage of the Whitbread Round the World Race and have clarified the sequence of events when Brooksfield went missing 11 days ago **Page 40**

Football: David Miller bemoans the long-term decline of the favourite English game, saying that the central issue is the amateur-based constitution of the Football Association **Page 38**

FEATURES

On your marks ... No matter how many more entrants join the fray to run the National Lottery, a riproaring fight is already guaranteed **Page 14**

Phenomenal change: The usual medical reaction to a patient with stomach cancer is one of despair. But this is changing **Page 15**

LAW

Essential right: "At its best, good interviewing results in acceptable and admissible evidence. But, regrettably, such interviews are too few in number." Anthony Edwards on how abandoning the right of silence will worsen police interrogation techniques **Page 33**

ARTS

Serpentine dealings: Everyone who cares about the survival of contemporary art in Britain will be shocked by the machinations of Iain Sproat, the junior heritage minister, writes Richard Cork, of the plan to demolish the Serpentine Gallery **Page 29**

After Pavarotti: Is Roberto Alagna the next great tenor? His performance in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* in Toulouse does his growing reputation no harm **Page 31**

Caribbean Playboy: J.M. Synge's Irish stage classic, *The Playboy of the Western World*, re-set in Trinidad and retitled *Playboy of the West Indies*, has been staged at the Tricycle Theatre **Page 31**

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



The rise to power of extremist Vladimir Zhirinovsky is causing new fears in the West about a resurgence of militarism in Russia **Pages 12, 13, 16, 17**



Pharmaceuticals group Fisons sacked Cedric Scroggs as its chief executive and announced a restructuring that will wipe out this year's profits **Page 21**



Lisa Lomas will lead the England women's table tennis team's attempt to reach the final of the European league for the first time **Page 36**

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Scrooge and Co

■ Dickens wrote it in six weeks, as a diversion while working on *Martin Chuzzlewit*. Exactly 150 years later, *A Christmas Carol* still defines the spirit of Christmases past, present and future

Booming paper round

■ Saturday newspaper sales are booming. Brian MacArthur assesses a new Fleet Street phenomenon

Home fit for a princess

■ The Princess of Wales is reported to be looking for a new house as part of her withdrawal from public life. Rachel Kelly looks at possible properties and eavesdrops on estate agents' gossip

DAILY STRIPS

Anette O'Toole's New York socialite falls for Anthony Andrews's British aristocrat in the latest mini-series from Danielle Steele's books, *Jewels* (ITV, 9pm) **Page 39**

OPINION

The morning after

The West's interest still lies in a prospering Russia. Continued reform remains the best guarantee, if far from a certain one, that a prosperous Russia will not revert to its expansionist past **Page 17**

Anyone for lotto?

There is bound to be public support for the idea that, in addition to charities getting their already allotted share of the proceeds of the national lottery, the operator's profit too should go to charity rather than to shareholders **Page 17**

Timeproof treasure

The "new" Haydn sonatas satisfy man's backward-looking passion and longing for basic values in a changing world **Page 17**

COLUMNISTS

LAWRENCE FREEDMAN

As long as Yeltsin is in charge, there is some prospect of reasonably friendly relations. But if he is snubbed by the West, there is little doubt that he will be followed by something far more reactionary. And Russia is, after all, still a nuclear power **Page 16**

BERNARD LEVIN

From the first bars of Colin Davis's production of *The Trojans*, it was clear that this would be something to treasure always. Superlatives run out; for a musical experience the equivalent of this one, I have to go back to 1961 and the Klemperer *Fidelio* **Page**

LETTERS

Views on the merits of repairing the Albert Memorial **Page 17**

THE TIMES SAYS

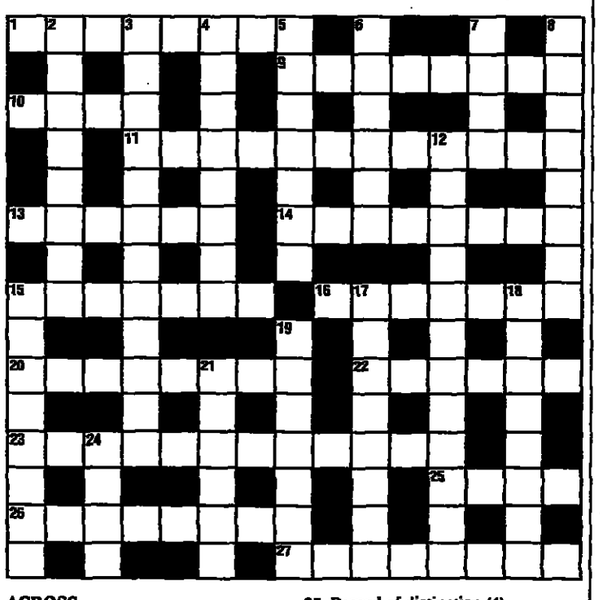
Our ministers should show a little less petulant insistence on their little goodies and more consciousness of a noble ideal: public service. To serve in Government is an honour. Not an inconvenience

— Evening Standard

If the $629 million Hubble rescue mission works, then the big science of the Cold War era will begin paying 15 years (the anticipated life of the telescope) of major annual dividends to the smaller science of the post-Cold War era ... there is much here to be proud of, grateful for and even, cautiously, optimistic about

— Los Angeles Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,413



ACROSS

1 Unqualified doctor bales out (8).
9 Perhaps I worked in stone (8).
10 Monotonous bit of scenery (4).
11 20 in training, having recovered from worry (4-8).
13 Suicidal little singer in The Mikado (6).
14 Port of call very nearly ignored by army (8).
15 Withdraws unconstitutional decrees (7).
16 Highlight part of the face (7).
20 Overstep the mark in unconventional love of argot (2,3,3).
22 A noisy scene in the ring (6).
23 Dull speech in Latin, for example (4,8).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,412

EXPRESS VAGRANT
X A G A V R N H
ENROL COLLECTOR
R A A K N A E E
CAGING SENTENCE
I O T S R N
SINAI TRADEMARK
E N R B A N
STONEWALL SETTO
A I E T H W
PORRIDGE REVEAL
A S D H E R E
COMPACTED EMEND
B E H E G S S
RUNDOWN ENGRAVE

25 Record of distinction (4).
26 Admittedly depressed but extremely loyal (4-4).
27 Speculative views of ambassador accepted by politicians (8).

DOWN

2 Gold diggers' territory invested in state railroad (8).
3 Rejected hot food we cooked when safe from danger (3,2,3,4).
4 A foreign sort of grub can be rough! (8).
5 Find marrow in a delicatessen? Certainly. (7).
6 A tower said to be of interest (6).
7 What to wear in the south of France? (4).
8 Bachelor always on time for a drink (8).
12 Oppose intention of top man (7-5).
15 Harshness shown by free city — not the first to capture a soldier (8).
17 Altercation in the market (8).
18 Obstruction in the course of a game (8).
19 Crawl clear from a systematic search (4-3).
21 Ploughs, embodying many other agricultural instruments (6).
24 A drink for lords and ladies (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most parts will start dry, but rain in the far northwest will quickly cover much of Scotland, Northern Ireland, and westernmost parts of England and Wales. During the afternoon, the rain is expected to cross the rest of the country, although the southeast should stay dry until after dark. Winds will strengthen from the southwest, becoming strong to gale, and it will feel cold generally. Outlook: staying unsettled with blustery showers in most parts.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	c	Madrid	6	43	s
Alicante	14	57	f	Majorca	16	61	f
Alex'dria	17	63	c	Malaga	14	57	c
Algiers	17	63	f	Malta	17	63	s
Amst'dm	9	48	r	Melb'rne	16	61	s
Athens	12	54	s	Miami*	18	64	s
Bahrain	22	72	s	Milan	6	43	c
Bangkok	33	91	f	Montreal*	-6	21	s
Barbados*	29	84	s	Moscow	0	32	c
Barcelona	11	52	f	Munich	11	52	f
Beirut	20	68	f	Nairobi	22	72	c
Belgrade	7	45	r	Naples	14	57	c
Berlin	1	34	sn	N Delhi	22	72	s
Bermuda*	21	70	c	N York*	1	34	s
Biarritz	15	59	s	Nice	13	55	s
Borde'x	12	54	f	Oslo	-8	18	s
Brussels	11	52	s	Paris	11	52	c
Budapst	2	36	sn	Peking	1	34	s
B Aires*	32	90	f	Perth	21	70	s
Cairo	21	70	c	Prague	3	37	f
Cape Tn	27	81	f	Reykjavik	-9	16	s
Chicago*	3	37	f	Rhodes	12	54	s
Ch'church	17	63	f	Rio de J	27	81	f
Cologne	9	48	r	Riyadh	23	73	s
C'phagn	0	32	f	Rome	14	57	c
Corfu	13	55	s	Salzburg	6	43	s
Dublin	5	41	r	S Frisco*	12	54	s
Dubrovnik	12	54	s	Santiago*	28	79	s
Faro	15	59	f	S Paulo*	26	79	f
Florence	3	37	d	Seoul	3	37	s
Frankfurt	10	50	c	Sing'por	32	90	f
Funchal	18	64	s	St'holm	-4	25	c
Geneva	10	50	s	Strasb'rg	12	54	c
Gibraltar	16	61	f	Sydney	23	73	s
Helsinki	-5	23	sn	Tangier	21	70	s
Hong K	19	66	r	Tel Aviv	21	70	f
Innsbruck	4	39	s	Tenerife	21	70	s
Istanbul	9	48	s	Tokyo	15	59	s
Jeddah	27	81	f	Toronto*	0	32	c
Jo'burg*	23	73	f	Tunis	19	66	s
Karachi	28	82	s	Valencia	15	59	s
L Palmas	22	72	s	Vanc'ver*	4	39	r
La Tquet	10	50	f	Venice	5	41	f
Lisbon	11	52	s	Vienna	4	39	r
Locarno	4	39	f	Warsaw	2	36	c
L Angels*	16	61	s	Wash'ton*	2	36	s
Luxembg	8	46	r	Wel'ngton	18	64	s
Luxor	24	75	s	Zurich	10	50	s

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 9C (48F); min 6pm to 6am, 11C (52F). Humidity 6pm, 85 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.05in Sun. 24hr to 6pm, 1.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 993.6 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp. Madley, Hereford & Worcester, 13C (55F); lowest day max. Buxton, Derbyshire, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Penzance, Cornwall, 1.17in

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43F); min 6pm to 6am, 6C (43F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.10in Sun. 24hr to 6pm, 0.0hr

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F) Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.32in Sun. 24hr to 6pm, 2.7hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun, hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.09	5	41	rain
Anglesey	-	0.46	10	50	rain
Aviemore	-		2	36	snow
Belfast	-	0.20	5	41	rain
Birmingham	-	0.57	10	50	sleet
Bognor Regis	-	0.43	10	50	rain
Bournemouth	-	0.42	11	52	rain
Bristol	-	0.77	11	52	rain
Buxton	-	0.76	1	34	snow
Cardiff	-	0.68	11	52	rain
Clacton	-	0.37	7	45	rain
Cromer	-	0.62		x	rain
Eastbourne	-	0.40	10	50	rain
Edinburgh	-	0.20	4	39	sleet
Eskdalemuir	-	0.28	2	36	snow
Exmouth	-	0.30	11	52	rain
Falmouth	-	0.98	13	55	rain
Folkestone	-	0.37	9	48	rain
Glasgow	-	0.41	3	37	sleet
Guernsey	-	0.36	12	54	rain
Hastings	-	0.38	9	48	rain
Isle of Man	-	0.50	7	45	rain
Jersey	-	0.84	10	50	rain
Kinloss	-	-	3	37	dull
Leeds	-	0.28	2	36	snow
Littlehampton	-	0.45	10	50	rain
Liverpool	-	0.64	4	39	snow
London	-	0.35	11	52	rain
Lowestoft	-	0.41	5	41	rain
Manchester	-	0.39	7	45	sleet
Margate	x	0.33	9	48	rain
Minehead	x	0.44	12	54	rain
Morecambe	-	0.27	4	39	rain
Newcastle	-	0.28	4	39	gale
Nottingham	-	0.83	3	37	snow
Penzance	-	1.17	12	54	rain
Plymouth	-	1.07	11	52	rain
Poole	-	0.47	11	52	rain
Saunton Snd	-	0.49	11	52	rain
Scarborough	-	0.28	3	37	shower
Scilly Isles	-	0.78	11	52	rain
Shanklin	-	0.72	11	52	rain
Southend	-	0.25	7	45	rain
Southsea	-	0.49	10	50	rain
Stornoway	-	-	5	41	dull
Swanage	-	0.53	11	52	rain
Teignmouth	-	0.37	12	54	rain
Tenby	-	1.09	11	52	rain
Tiree	-	0.11	6	41	sleet
Torquay	-	0.55	11	52	rain
Weymouth	-	0.56	11	52	rain

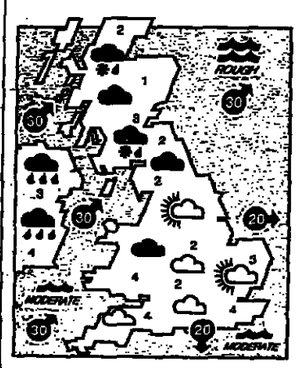
x denotes not available

TOURIST RATES

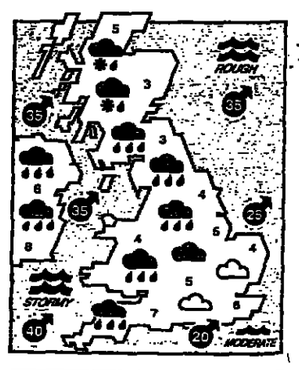
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.36	2.16
Austria Sch	18.76	17.26
Belgium Fr	56.12	51.72
Canada $	2.006	1.835
Cyprus Cypt	0.787	0.737
Denmark Kr	10.61	9.71
Finland Mkk	9.17	8.37
France Fr	9.12	8.42
Germany Dm	2.66	2.47
Greece Dr	383.50	359.50
Hong Kong $	12.20	11.20
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2593.00	2436.00
Japan Yen	180.50	161.00
Malta	0.625	0.570
Netherlands Gld	2.980	2.750
Norway Kr	11.57	10.77
Portugal Esc	269.00	250.00
South Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pta	215.00	202.00
Sweden Kr	13.02	12.22
Switzerland Fr	2.30	2.12
Turkey Lira	21209.0	20209.0
USA $	1.582	1.462

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 3.52 pm to 7.59 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.08 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.34 am
Manchester 3.56 pm to 8.18 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.14 am

Sun rises: 7.59 am — Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon sets 8.44 am — Moon rises 5.20 pm

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

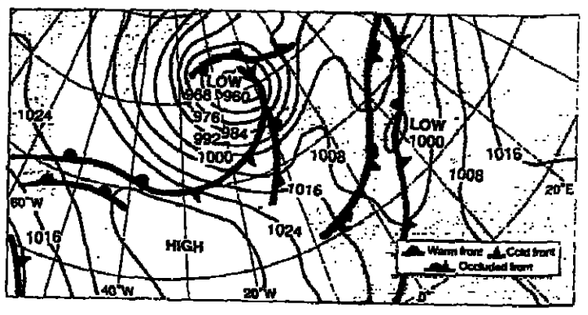
	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	5	41	s	Guernsey	9	48	f
B'mngham	8	46	c	Inverness	4	39	c
Blackpool	5	41	f	Jersey	10	50	c
Bristol	8	46	r	London	10	50	c
Cardiff	9	48	r	M'nchster	5	41	f
Edinburgh	6	43	f	Newcastle	4	39	sn
Glasgow	5	41	f	R'nldsway	5	41	c

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.56	6.5	2.20	7.1
Aberdeen	1.26	4.4	1.38	4.5
Avonmouth	7.31	13.4	7.55	13.3
Belfast	11.20	3.7	11.47	3.6
Cardiff	7.16	12.4	7.40	12.3
Devonport	6.7	5.7	6.32	5.4
Dover	11.16	6.7	11.43	6.7
Falmouth	6.27	5.5	6.2	5.2
Glasgow	12.49	4.8	1.20	5.1
Harwich			12.41	4.1
Holyhead	10.31	5.8	11.1	5.6
Hull	6.34	7.4	6.49	7.6
Ilfracombe	6.11	9.4	6.35	9.3
King's Lynn	6.42	6.8	6.55	6.9
Leith	2.51	5.7	3.7	5.7

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	11.32	9.7	11.57	9.4
Lowestoft	9.43	2.5	9.54	2.6
Margate			12.25	4.8
Milford Haven	6.29	7.2	6.52	7.0
Newquay	5.19	7.2	5.42	7.0
Oban	5.56	4.2	6.12	4.0
Penzance	5.2	5.8	5.29	5.5
Portland	6.57	2.3	7.20	2.1
Portsmouth	11.38	5.0		
Shoreham	11.21	6.3	11.55	6.3
Southampton	11.4	4.6	11.37	4.6
Swansea	6.31	9.7	6.53	9.6
Tees	3.52	5.5	4.6	5.6
W'ton-on-Nze			12.7	4.3

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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هكذا من الأصل



SMALL BUSINESS 28

Dreaming of an ecological Christmas



ARTS 29-31

Richard Cork champions an art gallery under threat



SPORT 36-40

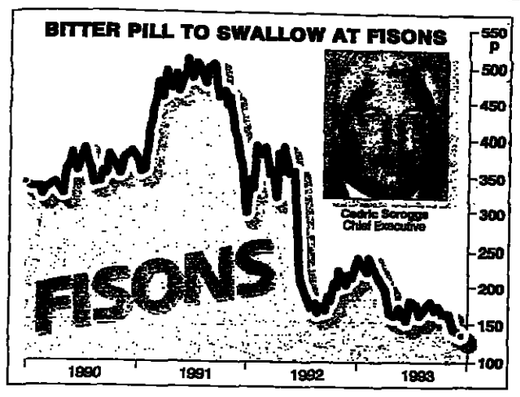
The officials left facing England's football decline

DIVORCED FROM REALITY?
Law 33-35

THE TIMES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 14 1993

Restructuring hits shares as Scroggs leaves Fisons



By Philip Pangalos

FISONS, the beleaguered pharmaceuticals and scientific equipment group, sacked Cedric Scroggs as its chief executive yesterday and announced a restructuring that will wipe out all of this year's profits.

Mr Scroggs will be entitled to compensation for loss of office. In the 1992 annual report, he was the highest-paid director and was paid £256,743. He is on a three-year rolling contract. Patrick Egan, chairman of Fisons, would not comment on the total compensation to be paid to Mr Scroggs but suggested that a final settlement is likely to be "substantially lower" than three times his salary.

The news wiped about £166 million off Fisons' market value, as the shares fell to 102p before recovering to close 24p lower at 113p on heavy volume of 21 million shares. The Fisons board had been expecting pre-tax profits of about £100 million for 1993.

The company also announced yesterday that Roy Thomas, the finance director who told the board earlier this year that he wanted to retire, is to retire immediately.

Mr Egan said that although the shake-up would have "very severe" consequences for the group this year, he expects a significant improvement from next year onwards. He said anticipated losses at the scientific instruments division are "totally unacceptable", while "the rate of progress has been pedestrian".

He added: "The non-executive directors and I, strongly supported by the executive directors, have decided to establish a soimd basis from which the group can move forward. I asked him [Mr Scroggs] to leave the company, and it was a sad affair," he added.

Mr Scroggs, formerly chairman of the scientific equipment division, had been a main board member since 1981 and was only appointed chief executive in April last year.

Mr Egan said: "Although these steps will have severe consequences for financial performance in 1993, I expect a significant improvement in the group's results from 1994 onwards, compared with what would have otherwise been achieved."

Fisons, a high-flyer in the 1980s and whose shares topped £5 in 1991, has been hit by a series of apparently endless regulatory problems. Last month, Fisons said it had dismissed one employee and disciplined another on discovery of improper sales practices in its drugs business after press reports that Fisons had been bribing doctors to prescribe its product.

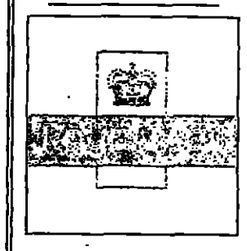
Fisons said its instruments business will incur an operating loss this year of about £16 million. With the cost of restructuring, the Ipswich-based group, which made pre-tax profits of £124 million last year, is likely to break even in 1993. Job cuts are expected, and while the City believes Fisons may be vulnerable to a takeover bid, the search for a new chief executive from the pharmaceutical world is underway.

This year's final dividend will be cut to 1p (5.4p), more than halving the total for the year to 4.3p (8.7p).

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

EXTRA CRISIS

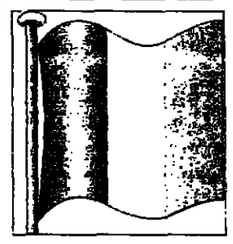


The Post Office chairman attacked the government for creating crisis by delaying a decision on the corporation's future
Page 22

EXTRA PAYOUT

London Electricity raised its half-year dividend by a massive 32 per cent, outpacing all its rivals so far
Page 23

EXTRA HASSLE



Privatisation is never straightforward, least of all in Italy, where the programme has been held up since July 1992
Page 25

EXTRA COSTS

An Inland Revenue investigation could cost workers self-employed status and create extra costs for companies
Page 22

Branson lottery bid gets £200m personal backing

■ **Lord Young and Richard Branson say that if their bid for the national lottery succeeds it will be the most important thing they have achieved in their lifetimes**

By Neil Bennett

RICHARD Branson and Lord Young of Graffham are risking £200 million of their own money to ensure the success of their charitable bid for the National Lottery. The two have agreed to guarantee all the leases and debts of the company that will run the lottery if their bid succeeds, even though they will not make a penny out of the scheme.

The two launched their bid for the lottery yesterday, as predicted in *The Times* on Saturday. They said the bid's charitable status will ensure that hundreds of millions of pounds extra will be given to good causes in its seven-year life than if one of the commercial consortia wins the licence. If the bid succeeds, it could create the largest charitable trust in Europe.

Mr Branson said that the charitable status of his bid would encourage many more people to use the lottery, and could increase its estimated annual turnover of £4 billion by as much as £1 billion. If successful, his bid could raise £1.5 billion a year for good causes.

Mr Branson, the chairman of Virgin, and Lord Young, chairman of Cable and Wireless, are still talking to banks about the funding for The UK Lottery Foundation, the charitable trust that is bidding to run the national lottery. But they hope to have completed the financial arrangements soon.

Yesterday, Lord Young said: "Richard was very much against the idea that the lottery should be run for private profits and I agree with him. We will be getting an awful lot out of this but not in money. If we pull this off, it would the most important thing we have achieved in our lifetime."

Since both men will be trustees of the foundation, they will not be allowed to take any salary from it and will even be barred from buying tickets in the lottery if it wins the franchise. Yesterday, both Mr Branson and Lord Young stressed that their foundation has the expertise to run the lottery.

IBM has won a competitive tender to become the foundation's technical partner. It would supply and install the network of up to 20,000 computer terminals in shops and post offices, which will issue the lottery tickets. IBM would also run the complex software and encryption services to ensure the lottery runs smoothly.

J Walter Thompson, the international advertising agency, is handling the marketing of the lottery, while Mr Branson said the trust is selecting an existing lottery operators to supply its knowledge of the business.

Mr Branson believes the charitable status of his scheme will allow it to make a keener bid for the lottery than any of the competitors. He is planning to increase the proporiton of the lottery proceeds available for the government's charity pool and in addition any profits that the trust makes will be shared out by six of its own charitable committees.

The UK Lottery Foundation's rivals tried to play down the benefits of its charitable status, stressing that all its operators will charge fees for their services. Some questioned Mr Branson's credentials to run a lottery.

Branson bid, page 1
The great lottery, page 14
Leading article, page 17
Pennington, page 23

JOHN STILLWELL/PJ



Richard Branson, left, and Lord Young announced details of their lottery bid yesterday

Pressure for further rate cuts increases

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

FRESH evidence emerged yesterday that inflationary pressures remain subdued and that the manufacturing recovery has run out of steam. It strengthened the case for further base rate cuts within weeks. Speculation about the next rate cut could be fuelled by the retail prices figures for November, due out tomorrow.

The Central Statistical Office reported that producer output prices were unchanged in November and that the annual rate of output inflation fell to 3.6 per cent, from 4 per cent in October. The annual rate of input price inflation — the cost of raw materials and fuel — fell by 1.8 percentage points, the first annual fall since September last year, when sterling was ejected from the ERM.

The inflationary impact on input prices of sterling's devaluation, which reached a peak of 7.9 per cent in March, has now ended. In addition, raw materials costs are being kept down by lower crude oil prices. The CSO also reported that manufacturing production in the three months to October was 0.2 per cent lower than in the previous three. It rose in October itself, but by only 0.1 per cent. Industrial production, which includes oil and gas production, grew by 0.6 per cent compared with the previous three months. This largely reflected higher output in energy sectors such as electricity and oil and gas, which were boosted by colder than normal weather. In the month, overall production gained 0.7 per cent.

City economists said that yesterday's figures boosted the case for lower interest rates to bolster recovery before huge tax increases come into effect in April.

However, a cautious message on interest rates and inflation is being heard from the Bank of England. Rupert Pennant-Rea, the Deputy Governor, told business leaders yesterday that, if they continued to increase profit margins by raising prices rather than by boosting sales volumes, interest rates would have to be raised.

TV deals on the cards says YTT chief

By Carl Mortished

YORKSHIRE-Tyne Tees Television turned up the temperature on the mooted alliance between itself and LWT Holdings when Ward Thomas, YTT chairman, said he favoured an east coast alliance to counter the proposed merger of Carlton and Central.

"Some arrangement between Yorkshire, Anglia and LWT which would provide a good balance to Carlton and Central would make a lot of sense," Mr Thomas said. He added that all the ITV franchisees were talking about deals and suggested: "I don't think in the future anyone can stand alone."

Mr Thomas said he was not in talks over such a merger with LWT, but added: "I can see merit in the strategy being propounded by LWT. It would only work if one could form an alliance and I don't think that legislation is far away." Under current rules, companies can own no more than two ITV franchises.

YTT yesterday estimated it had made losses of up to £9.5 million in the year to September 30 and would not be paying a final dividend. The company is delaying the publication of its results, due today, until the end of January in order to finalise arrangements with its advertisers who are owed money because advertising space was oversold by a former Yorkshire sales team.

Mr Thomas said that YTT would lose revenue as a result of the continuing negotiations with customers but he expected to start the new year with a clean slate. He said that the practice of overselling airtime and offering discounts for early payment, was widespread in the industry.

Shares in YTT fell 11p to 150p on news of the losses but rose to close 2p up at 163 on further hopes of an offer from LWT, which is currently fighting off a £600 million bid from Granada Group.

Katherine Pelly, analyst at Kleinwort Benson, said LWT would find it hard to persuade its shareholders to form an alliance with Yorkshire.

"Exit a bid from Granada, LWT's price cannot be sustained at some 30 times earnings. They have to persuade shareholders that they will get a better outcome from owning Yorkshire than merging with Granada" she said.

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LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 24; SHARE PRICES PAGE 26

British Gas's global mission

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

BRITISH Gas is aiming to become the first global player in its industry. Cedric Brown, chief executive, said yesterday. The spur is the difficulty the company has in maintaining and increasing its return to shareholders from operations in Britain.

Privatised seven years ago, British Gas is active in 45 countries. A quarter of its total profit was generated by exploration and production and global gas activities last year, with the overseas contribution ever more important.

In a speech to a gas conference in Vienna yesterday, Mr Brown said Britain provides a powerful springboard for British Gas, which has built up gas's share of the UK energy market from just 7 per cent 25 years ago to almost 50 per cent, one of the highest market shares in the world.

He said: "We believe we can perform the same kind of transformation in countries where gas consumption is minimal, but where the potential is high."

British Gas is the largest fully integrated gas company in the western world, with more than £10.6 billion of gas assets worldwide. Mr Brown cited three main reasons for having a global goal: that the UK gas market is relatively mature; that competition is growing in its home market; and that regulatory pressures have increased in Britain.

British Gas is awaiting a government decision on a monopolies enquiry into the domestic gas business, which could force the company to divest some of its assets. Mr Brown noted that the enquiry recommended some relief from the tariff price formula that reduces gas prices in real terms every year.

He said gas is fast becoming an international commodity traded by global companies. In Europe, progress is approaching the point where national grid-to-grid connections will link into one vast continental network to rival that of North America.



Mike Heron said uncertainty surrounding the Government's intentions had created a crisis in the Post Office

Government accused of 'funk' over Post Office

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MIKE Heron, the Post Office chairman, yesterday attacked the Government for causing a growing "crisis" in the corporation over its future. His criticisms drew immediate support from Edward Leigh, the sacked Post Office minister, who accused the Government of "political funk" in its failure to privatise the corporation.

The Government is now a year late in announcing the outcome of its review of the Post Office, which seems likely to remain in the public sector. Trade and Industry Department ministers like the idea of giving the Post Office the commercial freedom it seeks but the Treasury remains sceptical — at least in part because of the corporation's contributions to public funds at a time of tight public spending. These were increased again in the Budget, by £50 million, and will reach £230 million in 1994-95.

Mr Heron argued that the uncertainty surrounding the Government's review threatened the organisation's market position in the UK and abroad. "A sense of crisis is growing within the Post Office," he said.

The "long uncertainty" of the review — originally set up in the summer of 1992 and due to report a year ago — was "highly damaging". He said: "Eighteen months on, and another Christmas later, the Post Office is still waiting, being forced to look over its shoulder instead of forward. It's like driving a car forward by looking in the mirror."

Calling for a quick decision from the Government, Mr Heron attacked the organisation's contributions to the exchequer as a "millstone". The Post Office is freezing investment because of the uncertainty and Bill Cockburn, the chief executive, warned that ministers were in danger of "killing the goose that lays the golden eggs".

The severity of the criticisms drew a public response from the Department of Trade and Industry. The DTI said the Government was conscious of the time it was taking to reach a decision. "Nevertheless, there are difficult issues at stake and the most important thing is to make the right decision."

Robin Cook, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, said Mr Heron had been driven to speak out "because the ministers that are meant to be responsible for developing the Post Office are instead destroying it". The Government, he said, "dare not face the political damage" of privatising the corporation.

The public dispute sharpened when Edward Leigh, the former industry minister sacked over Europe by the Prime Minister this year, said Mr Major had been studying detailed plans for Post Office privatisation for more than 12 months.

"Everybody in senior positions in both the Post Office and the DTI wants to privatise the Post Office," he said. "The only reason why there has been no action to date is political funk."

Building suppliers forecast weaker recovery

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CONSTRUCTION industry output is likely to recover next year at only half the pace originally forecast, according to the latest economic estimates from the building materials industry.

The sharp reduction in the industry's economic forecast follows the Budget, a fortnight ago, which the construction industry largely regarded as an unhelpful. While it is a more marked cut than some industrial forecasters have been making, the reduction is in line with the general mood of greater economic scepticism among forecasters in industry.

Construction has been hit hard by the recession and the industry insists that overall economic recovery will not be fully under way until the state of the building industry improves markedly.

Previously, the National Council of Building Materials Producers (BMP) had forecast growth in the construction industry at 1 per cent for 1994, and 2.5 per cent in 1995. But its new forecasts, published yesterday, suggest that output next year will be 0.5 per cent, and in 1995, 2 per cent.

Peter Roberts, chairman of the BMP's forecasting panel, said yesterday: "The Chancellor's Budget was not one for the construction industry in the short term. Cuts in social housing, infrastructure and local government will result in reductions in workloads in public sector housing, roads, and repair and maintainance funded by local authorities."

The forecasts from the BMP, which represents about 2,000 building materials firms supplying the range of industrial items needed for building work, follow what it says will be a decline in output in the construction industry overall this year of 2 per cent.

The BMP said that the principal elements in their forecast, following the changes announced in the Budget, included:

☐ Public sector. The planned £900 million reduction in the Housing Corporation development programme will lead to a decline in public housing starts to 36,000 in 1994, and a further fall the following year to 33,000, from its peak this year of 42,000.

☐ Repair. The real reduction in local government spending will constrain expenditure on repairs, maintenance and improvements to council housing and local roads.

☐ Private housing. Output in the private sector is forecast to rise steadily — up by 10,000 private starts annually from 140,000 this year, with the "modest" pace of the recovery reflecting the impact of planned tax increases.

☐ Infrastructure. While the national roads programme faces cuts of 7 per cent, the materials producers said that the impact of such projects as the Jubilee Line extension, the Heathrow Express and the Cardiff Barrage would lead to positive, if slower, growth in this area of 2 per cent in each of the next two years.

Output in the commercial sector is still falling, though the BMP said the decline was now finally showings signs of slowing, while the non-housing public sector survived the Budget well.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Hanson building plan promises 1,200 jobs

A SCHEME to create 1,200 jobs on a planned new building project at a former huge tobacco factory and office site were unveiled yesterday. The £35 million proposal by Hanson, the Anglo-American industrial conglomerate, would demolish the Imperial Tobacco factory in Bristol — once one of the largest cigarette manufacturing plants in Europe — to make way for a retail and commercial leisure complex. The planned South Bristol Centre would include a 25-acre sports ground.

The company also wants to sell Imperial Tobacco's former headquarters building with its landscaped gardens at Hartcliffe to create new campus-style accommodation for the South Bristol College. The college currently occupies nine sites throughout Bristol, involving 13,500 students. Hanson says the proposals would involve a move for 800 present college staff. Hanson said it would be applying in January for the required planning changes, including alterations to access roads.

Radio Clyde improves

HEALTHY growth in advertising revenue helped Radio Clyde Holdings, the Glasgow radio station group, tune into pre-tax profits of £3.03 million (£1.09 million) in the year to September 30. Turnover grew 12 per cent to £14.6 million. Profits were boosted by a £618,000 exceptional gain, relating to the disposal in April of about half the group's 28.6 per cent investment in Satellite Media Services. There is an increased 6p final (5.25p), giving a 9.5p (8.5p) total for the year..

The group also said that it intends to change its name to Scottish Radio Holdings.

Flats portfolio is sold

FROGMORE Estates and British Ensign Estates have bought a portfolio of 15 blocks of flats from Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society for £23.7 million. Frogmore paid £18.9 million towards this and will own 11 of the blocks, consisting of 497 flats and producing £1.3 million of annual rental income. The portfolio consists of 650 rented flats in London and provincial towns. Frogmore believes it to be the biggest sale of unbroken blocks for many years and says that it shows its confidence in the residential market. Gross rental income from the portfolio is £1.7 million a year, and yield 7.5 per cent.

Halifax opens in Spain

HALIFAX Building Society, Britain's biggest, has made its first foray into Continental Europe by opening a subsidiary in Spain. Banco Halifax Hispania in Madrid will sell retail products, such as fixed-time deposit accounts, and plans to develop mortgage lending by October. The Halifax assessed the French, German and Italian markets before coming down in favour of Spain, where about 80 per cent are owner-occupiers. A spokesman said: "They have also got a robust, regular-savings approach to life. In addition to that, the country needs additional housing stock."

Hamlet set to grow

HAMLET Group, the clothing supplier that went public in October, is planning to extend its childrenswear and sportswear activities. The group also revealed a 31 per cent jump in taxable profits to £2 million (£1.52 million) in its maiden interim results for the six months to September 30. Earnings rose 25 per cent to 4.4p (3.51p) a share, and the group reiterated its intention to pay a final dividend for the year to March 31. Hamlet, which sells mainly to UK retailers, and sources from the Far East and India, said all its subsidiaries increased profitability.

Bullish Norbain ahead

SHARES in Norbain rose by 21p, to 290p, after the USM-quoted supplier of closed-circuit television and electronic security equipment added a confident tone on prospects to a surge in interim pre-tax profits to £724,000 in the half year to October 31, from £224,000 last time. Turnover was £15.8 million (£7.62 million). Norbain France SARL, the group's new French distributor, is establishing itself and is expected soon to break even on a monthly basis. Norbain said that it hopes to increase penetration into Europe. Earnings per share are 6.69p (2.16p); as usual, there is no interim dividend.

Brasway advances

BRASWAY, whose activities span hydraulic hoses and couplings to industrial and automotive lubricants, made pre-tax profits of £420,000, up 17.3 per cent, in the half year to October 30. At the trading level, a loss of £92,000 incurred at May 1 was reversed into a £624,000 profit at the interim stage. Turnover fell by 7 per cent to £15.3 million against the comparative period, but was 10 per cent up on the preceding six months to the end of April. Earnings climb to 0.36p (0.28p) a share. The interim dividend is maintained at 0.24p. Brasway shares firmed ½p to 16½p.

IR probes insurance sales staff

BY OUR INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of people acting as company representatives could lose their self-employed status as a result of an Inland Revenue probe at Allied Dunbar, the insurance arm of BAT Industries.

The Revenue's inquiry branch is examining the status of Allied Dunbar's 4,500 sales staff and an adverse decision could affect several industry sectors. If representatives are deemed employees, firms will have to make NI contributions and offer paid leave.

The probe started a year ago and covers a wide range of "technical" issues, including the payment of various forms of commission.

Allied has commissioned KPMG Peat Marwick, the auditor, to review its tax affairs and says "KPMG can confirm that no serious breaches of tax legislation have been found and there is unlikely to be a substantial amount of extra tax paid".

Names cheered by court ruling

BY SARAH BAGNALL INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S names won an important Court of Appeal victory yesterday, easing their fight to recover £2.5 billion of insurance losses and increasing the likelihood that last week's £900 million settlement offer will be refused.

Appeal court judges ruled that members' agents — responsible for placing names on syndicates — are contractually responsible for negligence of the managing agents of the syndicates. The judgment is important for the 17,000 names who have been planning to take legal action against dozens of members' agents.

Michael Deeny, chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group (GWAG), which represents 3,063 names suing for £553 million, said: "This is a wonderful Christmas present for our members. This issue was the only legal loophole that might have allowed the members' agents to escape their responsibilities. We now only have to prove that the Gooda Walker underwriters were negligent."

GWAG is the first action group due in court, in April. However, names will meet on 17 January to vote on the settlement offer.

Colin Hook, chairman of the Feltrim Names Association, said: "This is a most significant step in our battle. We are very pleased with the ruling."

The decision upholds a High Court ruling in October.



Hook: welcomes decision

THE TIMES

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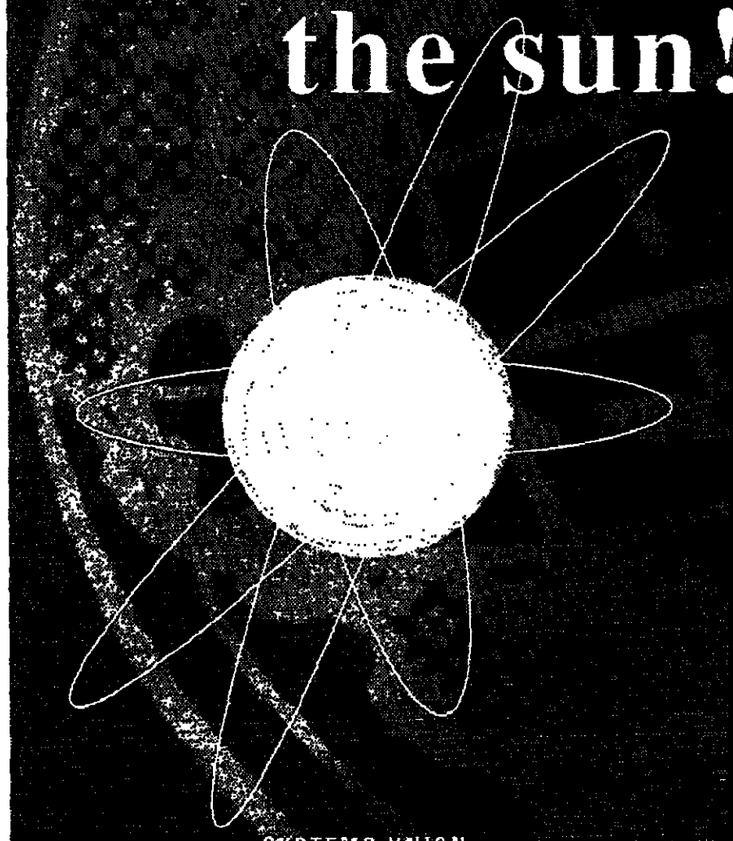
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For this relief, a watery smile

☐ RELIEF from Brussels interference must be good for all. Or is it? Water shares, which have been on a roll as long-term interest rates fall, rolled further ahead yesterday in the hope that an outbreak of subsidiarity in EC directives will let them off regulator Ian Byatt's hook in next year's fundamental price review. That looks a bit premature.

The Brussels summit agreed to turn six directives into framework directives, leaving national governments to fill in the blanks. In practical terms, these mainly affect drinking water standards, on which the British industry has spent so much in the first five-year period since privatisation. One of the main issues is whether the World Health Organisation standards for pesticide residues will be subsituted for the EC's arbitrarily tougher ones — though that would be in the EC framework directives rather than for national discretion. Had they been five years ago, the industry and its customers might have saved £1 billion. But that is history. Change now would mainly affect new water sources, mostly of interest to companies in low rainfall areas such as Anglian and Southern. There might also be a different attitude to bacteria content.

Over the next five years, however, the main thrust of investment is in the sewage side, where the urban waste directive has greatly added to costs and the length of the era of high investment, especially for companies with big beach problems such as South West and North West. This directive is not directly affected by the weekend decisions. But it does suggest a greater wilingness to extend the period for compliance and to smoothe peak spending in the late 1990s. The government is trying to persuade its EC partners to agree rephasing. Others totting up the bills are agreeing.

If that happens, which will not be for several months, that could cut investment and price limits substantially for the period Ofwat will determine in July. NatWest's Robert Miller-Bakewell already reckons it could allow Mr Byatt to reach his target of 2 per cent average real price rises with one or two companies having to cut prices in real terms.

For the moment, neither regulator nor companies know. At the least, the companies will probably have to prepare alternative business plans to submit to Ofwat in March and Mr Byatt's review timetable could yet be upset. Lower investment is not, however, an unalloyed benefit for the utilities. Market optimists caluclate that, as Ofwat cuts returns and forces increased gearing, less investment equals less risk. And Mr Byatt could keep prices down without bearing down so hard on the water companies. Remember, however, that the industry's essential appeal to investors has been that it has to be allowed a profit turn on its huge spending programmes. Less spending, less profit. Less risk, the less the turn Ofwat can afford to allow.

Fantasy time at the Bank

☐ WHAT a wonderful picture Rupert Pennant-Rea, deputy Governor of the Bank of England, paints of the future. "Extra volumes and more market share" are, he says, the road to enduring profitability in a world where the Bank is determined to banish inflation. Sadly, it is a wholly unrealistic picture. His



argument is that firms are taking far too short term a view if they concentrate on widening profit margins in the recovery and use thr breathing space of devaluation to raise prices. The trouble is that the experience of the past umpteen years has been that conentrating on margins rather than volume has been the key to profitability and security.

The companies and the managers that have espoused that philosophy have been the ones that have survived the recession best. What BTR, Hanson et al thought yesterday, everyone thinks today. It is even the government philosophy behind coal privatisation. Cut out peripheral products and marginal businesses and concentrate on those where you have a big market share, decent profit margins and are not prey to intense price competition. Companies that went for expansion and suffered the consequences are still far too busy retrenching and restructuring to listen to Mr Pennant-Rea. If they did, they might point out to him that *The Economist*, a successful enterprise with which he is familiar, has managed to raise its price by a quarter during the recession. Too many of those depending on volume have seen their prices tumble along with sakes.

This culture of experience will not change quickly. Indeed, its careful exponents will point out that low inflation does not necessarily bring higher growth in the economy and their markets. It might do in future but that is, to say the least, not proven. If everyone raising their prices brings damaging inflation, as Mr Pennant-Rea points out, it is equally true that everyone going for volume and extra market share in stagnant markets brings losses and insolvency.

Concentrating on profit margins does not imply raising prices. Indeed, the main emphasis of business has been to build margins by cutting costs. When the economy picks up, the extra cash flow and profit can more safely be used to buy in extra market share. In the long term, that is stultifying, entrenching low groeth and high unemployment. But aversion to risk will only change after a prolonged period of low interest rates convinces managers that the risks of expansion have permanently fallen.

Branson changes the betting

☐ THERE has been an unreal air about the run-up to bids for the National Lottery, as though the real commercial issues had yet to surface. Now, thanks to Richard Branson, they have. The biggest question is whether the lottery is a licence to print money for the operator as well as for the government and its chosen causes. A lesser but intriguing one is over the vast patronage connected with distributing that money, not least via the licence.

Lord Young of Graffham and Mr Branson have clearly concluded that the risk to the operator is small. Otherwise they would not guarantee the £200 million-£250 million of capital likely to be employed — which their charitable trust must borrow. The risk to UK Lottery is the same as for other contenders. Admittedly, attitudes to risk vary — Lord Weinstock and Sir Ernest Harrison do not go in for transatlantic ballooning — and will affect the bidding process.

Other things being equal, Mr Branson's charity bid, which in effect gives him and his ageing trustees the patronage to distribute operating profit, should have the edge. But that leaves it open to all the others to bid further below the 15 per cent of revenue provisionally allocated to the operator. After Mr Branson's intervention, this competition is likely to knock out anyone thinking of making enormous returns from organising the risk-taking umbrella company that subcontracts the actual mechanics of promoting and running the lottery. The real competitors, therefore, will be potential suppliers prepared to accept the minimal risk of participating in an essentially non-profit consortium to gain the software, hardware, marketing and distribution orders — and the somewhat larger risk of making the lottery work.

EC backs down over bananas

By Colin Narbrough, World Trade Correspondent

THREATS from the banana-exporting countries of Latin America that they would block a world trade deal have forced the European Community to concede increased access to the EC market for bananas from Central and South America.

The concession, squeezed from the EC during the brutal end-game of the world trade talks, means that the import quota for Latin American "dollar" bananas will be increased by 100,000 tonnes this year to 2 million tonnes, and rise by a further 100,000 tonnes again next year.

It was yesterday understood that France and Spain, which had earlier opposed any changes to the EC banana regime that came into force last July, abandoned their position at the weekend.

The EC rules put into place this year gave continued protection for the banana growers of the Caribbean islands, former European colonies, where the fruit in some cases accounts for 50 per cent of the mini-states' export earnings.

The volte-face by the Europeans, in return for important access to the Latin American market in other areas of negotiation in the Uruguay Round, immediately provoked fears among the Caribbean producers that their vital hold on the EC banana market will be undermined.

Bernard Cornibert, London representative of the Windward Islands Banana Growers Association, said last night that any Gatt agreement that makes markets less favourable to Caribbean producers threatens the "total collapse" of the industry. "We therefore urge the negotiators not to undermine the current banana regime," he said.

Mr Cornibert said banana prices are already below production costs. Since the new EC regime started the Latin America growers, who are largely controlled by the big American fruit companies, have been lobbying to alter the EC rules, arguing that they are discriminatory and contravene Gatt rules. A Gatt panel investigating the banana trade is expected to publish its findings soon.

The EC has been divided over the banana issue, with Germany, its biggest banana consumer, trying to preserve its open access arrangement the war for "dollar" bananas. It was was outgunned by its EC partners, who sought to provide secure markets for their poor former colonies.



MARTIN BEDDALL

Roger Urwin said the last light in London Electricity's retailing business would be switched off in March

London Electricity lights up dividend with 32% rise

By Sarah Bagnall

LONDON Electricity left its rivals in the shade yesterday with a surprise 32 per cent hike in its interim dividend to 7.4p. The increase, well ahead of even the most optimistic of forecasts, boosted the shares by 11p to 655p. However, they ended unchanged at 644p.

The company said about 0.8p of the 1.8p increase was due to an adjustment of the split between the interim and final payments, with the balance reflecting strong growth in earnings. The rebalancing suggests a 13.8 per cent rise for the full year, at the lower end of forecasts.

Last week, Midlands Electricity lifted its interim dividend by 21.5 per cent to 7.65p, suggesting a rise for the full year of 14.75 per cent.

London Electricity lifted pre-tax profits by 26 per cent to £69.9 million in the six months to September 30.

John Wilson, who yesterday announced he is to retire as chairman in March, said that "against a background of gradual but distinct recovery in the London market", electricity demand had improved and operating costs had fallen.

The high and low voltage electricity distribution networks at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stanstead airports made an operating profit of £5.3 million for its first contribution. This helped boost operating profits from the non-regulated operations from £800,000 to £5.8 million.

The company's withdrawal from electrical retailing continued, with trading losses and closure costs totalling £5.2 million. However, profits were protected as the costs were covered by the release of part of a £20 million provision set aside in the second half of last year. In the first half last year, retailing lost £4.6 million.

Roger Urwin, chief executive, said: "The last part of our withdrawal from retailing is the closure of our 45 Debenhams concessions. This will be completed by next March and the costs will be covered by the provision."

About 150 jobs will be lost in the process. London Electricity is discussing new employment terms with staff, including increasing the number of part-time jobs.

The company said second half revenues will be affected by a lower than expected RPI and a one-off payment of £36 million to customers, made up by a rebate of £7.50 in October and a 2 per cent price cut in April. Michael Kersey is to be energy services director and Andrew Robertson company secretary.

Tempus, page 25

Berkeley bullish on housing prospects

By Martin Barrow

PROSPECTS for the housing market are the best they have been for five years, according to Berkeley Group, the housebuilder. Graham Roper, the chairman, said that for the first time since 1988 margins have not been under pressure through falling sales prices.

A rise in volume, allied to enhanced margins, underpinned an 83 per cent increase in Berkeley's interim profits to £12.6 million (£6.9 million) before tax in the six months to October 31. Turnover rose to £103.9 million (£75.8 million), with 656 (468) units sold.

Earnings of 11p a share were up more than 50 per cent, and the interim dividend has been increased to 1.9p (1.65p). The shares rose 20p to 480p.

The company has been appointed to develop an £80 million scheme at Thames Water's redundant Barn Elms reservoir site on the River Thames. The project includes developing a 110-acre wildlife haven and more than 300 homes on the adjacent land.

BTG seeks enquiry into share swings

By Our City Staff

THE Business Technology Group photocopier company has asked the Stock Exchange to investigate recent wild fluctuations in its share price.

Business Technology said that there has been a significant rise in its share price since Thursday, when premarketing of a cash-raising plan to finance a significant acquisition was arranged by its financial advisers.

The company is planning a placing of shares with institutions, at 12¾p, to help to fund planned expansion. Its share slipped 1p yesterday, to 13½p.

"Adverse trading conditions in the third quarter of 1993 have resulted in significant losses being incurred in the group, with consequent pressure on the group's finances," BTG said in a statement.

In October, Tony Berry, former head of Blue Arrow, resigned as BTG chairman and chief executive, citing problems caused by Department of Trade moves to have him banned as a company director.

Bugs Bunny finds European burrow

From A Correspondent in Bottrop

WARNER Bros plans to build a DM350 million film theme park and television and film studio at Bottrop, near Düsseldorf in the Ruhr valley.

The project, similar to that which the Time Warner division opened in Brisbane, Australia, in 1991, will represent the biggest-ever investment in the sector in Germany, according to Michael Reinert, a spokesman for Warner Bros.

The news comes as debate rages at the Geneva international trade talks over American demands that Europe removes barriers to American films and television shows and cuts subsidies to its own entertainment industry.

Warner appears ready to overlook the problems encountered by Euro Disney in France, which has entered refinancing talks with banks after suffering lower than expected levels of attendance.

The film theme park planned for Bottrop, in a densely populated region, will feature rides, shows and attractions based on such popular cartoon characters and films as Batman, Bugs Bunny and *Police Academy*, said Mr Reinert.

The North Rhine-Westphalia state government said the project, to be built with German and American investment, would create 900 jobs in a recession-wracked region in which the rate of unemployment is running at an average 12.3 per cent.

Mr Reinert, a Düsseldorf public relations agent hired by Warner Bros., said final approval for the film theme park and studio is expected to be granted in the spring next year.



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MERCEDES DRIVE

by

Europcar Interrent

Investors look for another interest rate cut

STOCK MARKET

CITY investors appeared quietly confident that their Christmas stockings will contain another cut in interest rates as the three-week Christmas account began. The FT-SE 100 index wiped out an early eight-point lead to end the session 6.7 down at 3,254.6, not a bad performance when taking into account that ex-dividends were responsible for at least three points of the fall.

With the expiry of the December futures scheduled for Friday, investors were in no rush to open fresh positions. Dealers attributed the late setback as much to lack of follow-through than any weight of selling. By the close, a total of 653 million shares had changed hands, but this figure had been swollen by a large protected program trade which included 1.2 million GEC, 1½p lower at 313½p in ex-dividend form.

The smell of burnt fingers wafted round the marketplace as **Fisons** slumped 24p to 113p. The group has sacked Cedric Scroggs, chief executive, and announced plans for a major restructuring. Results for the full year are expected to show breakeven. Fisons was tipped as a big recovery play, and even a possible takeover target in 1993.

Glaxo rose 4p to 686p after announcing a joint venture with Warner Lambert to develop and sell over the counter drugs, including Zantac, its best selling anti-ulcer treatment.

There was some positive news at last for food retailers, with UBS turning bullish on the view that selling has been overdone, and is urging clients to buy for recovery. **Tesco** climbed 6p to 205p, **J Sainsbury** 4p to 426p, **Shoprite** 9p to 172p, **Iceland** 2p to 156p, and **Kwik Save** 2p to 549p. **Argyll** put on 1p at 258p after going ex-dividend. **Unilever** lost an early 12p lead to finish 6p down at £11.74 after Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, turned bearish.

Yorkshire Television touched 150p before rallying to close 2p firmer at 163p after scaring the market with the announcement that it is delaying its full year figures for the year to September 30, until January and is passing its final dividend. **Pearson**, which has a 17 per cent stake in Yorkshire, eased 2p 587p. Speculators claim **LWT**, 4p off at 588p, has been considering a merger with Yorkshire to fight off **Carlton Communications**, up 5p at 884p.

Business Technology Group touched 16p, before closing 1½p easier at 13p. The new management team are hitting the takeover trail, paying £1 million for ABC, a privately owned photocopier group. A placing and open offer of shares at 12¾p is planned to raise £3.6 million. But Alan Baldwin, chairman, has warned of significant losses and the need for a capital injection.

Inspiration, the package holiday group, made a positive USM debut. Offered at 100p they opened at 106p and advanced to 111p.

Greene King failed to live up to expectations, falling 15p to 553p on the back of disappointing first half performance. But **Berkeley Group**, the housebuilder, exceeded expectations with first half profits virtually doubled, and the shares responded with a rise of 20p to 480p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts were encouraged by the latest economic indicators, suggesting another cut in interest rates may be imminent. Index-linked were chased higher following recommendation from both Greenwell Montagu and Kleinwort Benson. The March series of the long gilt jumped almost £½ to finish at £118¾, with 40,000 contracts completed. There was a further flattening of the yield curve as Treasury 9 per cent 2012 advanced £$^{15}/_{32}$ to £$125^{15}/_{32}$.

☐ **WALL SREET:** Blue chips traded in a tight range after being 0.55 points off at 3,740.12 at midday. Declining issues led advancing shares about 12 to eight. Treasuries were lower, with the long bond down $^{11}/_{32}$ to yield 6.23 per cent.

MICHAEL CLARK



ANTHONY HARRIS

Predicting a repeat performance

Prediction is difficult, it has been said, "especially about the future". It would be nice to be able to tell you which great sage laid down this truth, but memory can be as difficult as prediction. That doesn't affect its truth: it remains a rule by which we all live, whether we know it or not. Show me a forecaster, and I will show you a man living in the past, even if he does it with a computer. Indeed, he is especially bound by history — a computer is simply an engine for projecting the past. The difficult trick is to decide which bit of the past to recolonise.

Fund managers and the actuaries who advise them choose the recent past, because recent times have been good to them. Equity investors believe that it is a rule of nature that equities out-perform bonds, so they regard the last year or two, when bonds have led, and War Loan has led the bond market, as an aberration. In the long run, equities "must" out-perform, as in the 1980s.

Actuaries, who base projected returns on past achievements, give this wishful thinking a scientific gloss. At the moment, it is true, they are badly worried by the level of equity yields, which makes a projected return of 9 or 10 per cent hard to believe. However, at bottom, nostalgia rules. Fortunately the same time-warp makes them project long-term growth in earnings, and thus in pension entitlements, at an equally fanciful 7 or 8 per cent annually. So their over-optimism on returns is partly balanced by pessimism; but their backward-looking views on asset allocation could still go disastrously wrong.

The bond-fanciers who have out-performed this year have been living in a different slice of the past, the 1930s. The long-cycle view is that now, as then, we are recovering from a major financial collapse, but that it will take a long time. Both borrowers and lenders have lost confidence, and in this state of what Keynes called low animal spirits, the world economy will drift sideways. As in the 1930s, countries that by design (the US) or by accident (Britain) have achieved a competitive devaluation will enjoy most of the growth; but even here, prices and activity will remain weak.

This is appealing to those who want to understand why this recession is different; but it is also wildly exaggerated. The collapse from 1929-1932 was on a scale hard even to imagine. Wall Street prices fell 90 per cent, peak to trough, banks failed and closed their doors, and millions of depositors lost everything. Today, bust banks are kept on life support, depositors are protected, and only Tokyo with its 50 per cent fall raises even a faint echo of that disaster. Bankers will no doubt impede recovery by saying "No" to small business, or demanding insupportable rates, but that is about all.

However, 60 years is a short time in history, and now some analysts are looking back twice as far, to the late 19th century. The "great depression" of the 1870s and 80s was no such thing. Growth continued in most main economies. But the growth of new producers, coupled with a liberal trade regime, led to mass unemployment, and pushed prices down steadily. Deflation was greatly aided by a retailing revolution that compressed margins by half and wiped out many traditional shops.

That is the future now foreseen by Patrick Minford, one of the Chancellor's wise men, and by GT, the international investment manager. As the Gatt talks end in the inevitable display of brinkmanship, it does look like a repeatable slice of history; and it has interesting investment implications. It suggests that the bond rally is only half way there yet; we could be on the way to ngative inflation and stable long-term yields of say 3 per cent. Certainly the current bond-bull forcasts of 2 per cent inflation and 4 per cent short rates look quite modest in this context.

Again, this view rests partly on a naive projection of the recent past. It assumes that the drive to liberal trade and reliance on market forces that has dominated policy for the last 20 years is unstoppable. It contains important reminders, but heavy political risks. Like the man said, prediction is difficult.

Greene King finds its fortunes mixed

By MARTIN FLANAGAN

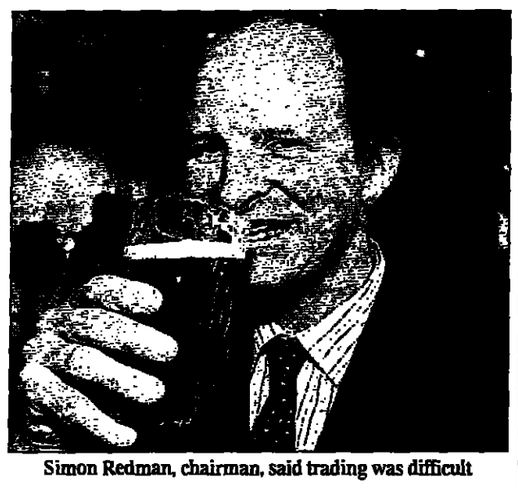
GREENE King, one of the UK's biggest regional brewers, has seen beer volumes fall in its main East Anglian market, but says that newer trading areas further south have shown some recovery.

In August, the group more than doubled the pubs it owns in London with a £17.5 million purchase of 44 from Bass.

Yesterday, Greene King announced a 40 per cent pre-tax profits rise, to £9.5 million, in the half-year to October 31, from £6.7 million, which included £2.7 million costs from the failed bid for Morland, in which Greene King retains 29.3 per cent. Disregarding bid costs, Greene King's taxable profit rose just 1 per cent, to £9.6 million. The interim dividend rises 4 per cent, to 3.85p, on earnings per share up 64 per cent, to 16.1p.

Simon Redman, chairman, said that trading profit dipped 5 per cent in difficult trading. A rise in beer and food sales in the managed estate was offset by falling beer volumes in tenanted pubs. Like Scottish & Newcastle last week, Greene King reported a big rise in food sales in managed houses — up 54 per cent.

Mr Redman said that strategy continued to focus on managed houses, and spoke of an increasingly competitive free-trade market.



Simon Redman, chairman, said trading was difficult

☐ Hardy and Hansons, the Nottingham brewer, lifted its total dividend to 8.5p (7.9p) via a 5.5p final on taxable profit of £7.03 million (£6.87 million) in the year to October 1.

Sales (excluding VAT) were £31.73 million (£30.25 million).

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MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $	1.4918 (-0.0027)
German mark	2.5393 (+0.0024)
Exchange index	81.5 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100	3254.6 (-6.7)
Dow Jones	3740.12 (-0.55)*
Nikkei Avg	17327.33 (+69.90)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	5½%
3-month Interbank	5⅝-5⅝%
US Federal Funds	3%*
3-month Treas Bills	3 05-3.04%*
Long Bond	6.24%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£/$ 1.4905*	£/$ 1.4903
$/DM 1.7043*	£/DM 2.5417
$/SWfr 1.4660*	£/SWfr 2.1855
$/Ffr 5.6350*	£/Ffr 8.6945
$/Yen 108.95*	£/Yen 162.44
£/SDR 1.0756	£/ECU 1.3145

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 387.55 PM 386.25
Close 386.70-387.20
New York
Comex 386.55-387 05*

OIL

Brent Crude $13.85 per bbl (Feb)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.8 Oct (1.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Berkeley Group	480p (+20p)
Bowater	475p (+18p)
Rank Org	926p (+12p)
Wellcome	639p (+12p)
Pittards	64p (+13p)
Eurotunnel Units	509p (+33p)
Mersey Docks	447p (+9p)

FALLS:

Greene King	553p (-15p)
Redland	583p (-12p)
ICI	748p (-13p)
Porvair	253p (-15p)
Elec Data Process	535p (-20p)
Mitel	385p (-25p)
P & O	613p (-12p)
Reed Int	807p (-11p)
NFC	222p (-11p)
Fisons	113p (-24p)
BTR	338p (-10½p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	524p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 26

WALL STREET

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 10 close
AMF Inc	60¼	59¾
AMR Corp	69⅝	68¾
Abbott Labs	28¾	28⅞
Aetna Life	60¾	61¼
Ahmanson (H F)	19¾	19¾
Air Prod & Chem	45¾	44¾
Albertson's	25¾	25⅞
Alcan Aluminm	22	21¾
Alco Standard	52¾	52¾
Allied Signal	34¾	35⅛
Alum Co of Am	73	72⅝
Amax Gold Inc	7¼	7¼
Amerada Hess	44¼	45
Amer Brands	33⅝	33⅝
Amer Cyanamid	51⅜	51⅛
Amer El Power	36¼	36¼
Amer Express	31¼	31½
Amer Gen Corp	28	28⅛
Amer Home Pr	63½	63¾
Amer Intl	88⅜	88⅛
Amer Stores	41¾	41¾
Amer T & T	56¾	56¾
Ameritech	78	78¼
Amgen	52¾	52¾
Anheuser-Busch	50¾	50¾
Apple Computer	29	28¾
Archer Daniels	22⅜	22¾
Arkla	7¼	7¼
Armco	6¼	6
Armstrong Wrld	46	46¼
Asarco	22¼	22⅜
Ashland Oil	33⅜	33½
Atl Richfield	104¼	103
Atmo Data Pro	55¾	55¾
Avery Dennison	29¾	29⅝
Avon Products	49¾	51¼
Baker Hughes	19¾	19¾
Baltim Gas & El	24¾	25
Banc One	37¾	37¾
BankAmerica	44¾	45⅛
Bank of NY	55¾	55⅝
Bankers Tr NY	74¾	77¼
Barnett Banks	40¼	41
Bausch & Lomb	51⅛	51¼
Baxter Intl	22⅜	22⅞
Bectn Dickinson	35¾	36¼
Bell Atlantic	59¾	59⅝
BellSouth	56⅜	57¼
Black & Decker	20¾	20⅝
Block (H&R)	41¼	40⅝
Boeing	40¼	40¾
Boise Cascade	23¾	23⅝
Borden Inc	18¼	18⅜
Bristol Myrs Sq	57¾	58¼
Browning Ferris	26½	27¾
Burlington Nthn	60¼	60¾
CBS	300¾	301¼
CNA Financial	77	76¾
CPC Intl	46⅜	46¾
CSX	85¾	85¾
Campbell Soup	42⅞	42⅝
Can Pacific	16⅛	16⅜
Cpri Cities ABC	630¼	631
Cpri Holdings	37¾	38¼
Carolina Pwr	29⅜	29⅜
Caterpillar	85	85¾
Centrol & SW	29¾	30
Champion Intl	33¾	34¼
Chase Manhat	33¾	33¾
Chemical Bk	38⅜	39¼
Chevron Corp	85¾	86¾
Chrysler	56¼	56¾
Chubb Corp	49¾	49¾
Cigna Corp	65¾	65¾
Cincorp	34¾	35¼
Clorox	52¾	53¾
Coastal Corp	27¾	27¾
Coca Cola	43¾	43¾
Colgate-Palmolive	65¾	65¾
Columbia Gas	25¾	25¾
Commonw Ed	28¼	28
Compaq Comp	71¾	71¼
Comp Ass Int	41	40¾
Compgrn	25¾	25¾
Cons Edison	31¼	31¼
Cons Nat Gas	45¾	46⅛
Cons Rail	62¾	62¾
Cooper Inds	49¾	49¾
Corning Inc	38¾	39¼
Crown Cork	39¾	39¾
Dana Corp	55¾	55¾
Dayton Hudson	69¾	69¾
Deere	69	70
Delta Air Lines	58	58¼
Deluxe Corp	35¾	35¾
Detroit Edison	31¼	31
Digital Equip	35¾	35¾
Dillard Dept St	38¾	38¾
Disney (Walt)	42¾	42
Dominion Res	44¾	45¼
Donelley (RR)	30¾	29¾
Dover Corp	61¼	61¼
Dow Chemical	89¾	89¾
Dow Jones	37¾	37¾
Dresser	20¾	21
Duke Power	41¼	41½
Dun & Bradstreet	62¾	62¾
Du Pont	48¾	47¾
Eastman Kodak	63¾	63¾
Eaton Corp	51¼	51¼
Emerson Elec	58½	58¾
Engelhard Corp	24¾	24¾
Enron Corp	28¾	27¾
Entergy Corp	35¾	35¾
Ethyl Corp	18½	18¾
Exxon	62¾	63¾
FMC Corp	45¾	45¾
FPL Group	37¾	37¾
Federal Express	67¾	68¾
Fed Nat Mtge	78¾	78¾
First Chicago	61¼	61¼
First Interstate	61¼	61¼
First Union Rlty	10¾	10¾
Fleet Fincl Grp	31¾	31¾
Fluor Corp	61¼	61¼
Ford Motor	64¾	64¾
GTE Corp	35¾	35¾
Gannett	56¼	56
Gap Inc Del	42¾	42¾
Gen Dynamics	92¾	91¼
Gen Electric	101¼	101¾
Gen Mills	60¾	61¼
Gen Motors	55¾	56¼
Gen Mtrsmurance	110¾	109¾
Gen Signal	35	34¾
Genuine Parts	35¾	35¾
Georgia Pac	70¾	71¾
Gillette	60¾	61
Glaxo ADR	20¾	20¾
Goodrich (BF)	41¼	41¼
Goodyear Tire	48¾	47¾
Grace (WR)	40¾	39¾
Grt Atl Pac Tea	28¾	28¾
Great West Fin	18¾	18¾
Halliburton	30¾	30
Harcourt General	37¾	38
Helmz (HJ)	38¾	38¾
Hercules	110¼	109¾
Hershey Foods	50	50¾
Hewlett Packard	75¾	76¼
Hilton Hotels	53¾	54¼
Home Depot	41	41¼
Homestake Mng	22¼	21¾
Honeywell	33¾	34¼
Household Intl	33	33¾
Houston Indt	45¾	46
Humana	17¾	17¾
ITT Corp	93¾	93
Illinois Tool	30¾	30¾
INCO	27¾	28¾
Ingersoll Rand	36¾	36¾
Inland Steel	34¾	34
Intel Corp	57¾	56¾
IBM	56¼	55¾
Intl Flav & Fr	110¾	111¼
Intl Paper	60¾	60¾
James River Va	18¾	18¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	43¾
K Mart	22¾	22¾
Kellogg	59¾	60¾
Kerr-McGee	44¾	44¾
Kimberly-Clark	50¾	50¾
Knight-Ridder	59	59¾
Lilly (Ell)	57¾	57¼
Limited Inc	18	18
Lin Broadcstg	113¾	113¾
Lincoln Nat	42¾	42¾
Litton	66¼	65¾
Lk Calumet	21	21¼
Lockheed Corp	69¾	69
Louisiana Pac	37¾	37¾
MCI Commun	24¾	24¾
Manrtch Int	27¾	28¾
Mrsh & McLen	78¾	78¾
Masco Corp	36	36¾
May Dept St	42¾	42¾
Maytag Corp	17	17
McDnn Cellular	51¼	51¼
McDonalds	57	56¾
McDonnell D	109¾	112¾
McGraw Hill	66¾	66¾
Mead Corp	43¾	44¼
Medtronic	85¾	84
Mellon Bk	53¾	53¾
Melville Corp	39¾	39¾
Merck Inc	32¾	33¾
Merrill Lynch	46¼	47
Minnesota Mine	108¾	108
Mobil Corp	75¾	76¼
Monsanto	72¾	73¼
Morgan (JP)	71¼	71¼
Motorola Inc	89¾	89¾
Natl Medical	13¾	13¾
Natl Semicd	15¾	14¾
Natl Service Ind	24¾	24¾
Navistar Int	20	20
NBD Bancorp	30	30¼
NY Times A	39¾	39¾
Newmont Mng	57¾	56¼
Nisg Mohawk	20¾	20¾
Nike B	45¾	45¾
NL Industries	5¾	5¾
Nordstrom	53¾	54¼
Norfolk Sthrn	69¾	69¾
Nthn State Pwr	42¼	43
Norwest Corp	23¾	24
Nynex Corp	41¾	41¾
Occidental Pet	17¾	18
Ohio Edison	21¼	21¾
Oracle Systems	36¼	35¾
Onyx Energy Co	18¾	18¾
Owens Corning	46¾	46¾
PNC Financial	29¾	29
PPG Industries	71¼	72¼
Pacear Inc	63¾	62¾
PacifiCorp	19¾	19¾
Pac Enterprises	24¾	24¾
Pac Gas & Elect	33¾	33¾
Pac Telesis	56¼	57¼
Pall Corp	19¾	19¾
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramnt Comm	80¾	81¼
Parker Hannifin	36¾	36¾
Penney (JC)	53¾	53¾
Pennzoil	35¾	35¾
Pepsico	41	40¾
Pfizer	64¾	65¼
Phelps Dodge	50	48¾
Philadel Elec	28¾	28¾
Philip Morris	55¾	54¼
Phillips Pet	27¾	27¾
Pitney Bowes	41¼	41¾
Polaroid	34¾	35¼
PriceCostco	20	20
Primerica	40	41¾
Procter & Gmbl	56¼	56¾
Pub Serv E & G	31¼	31¾
Quaker Oats	72¾	72¾
Ralston Purina	37¾	37¾
Raychem Corp	37¾	37¾
Raytheon	63¾	63
Reebok Intl	28	28¾
Reynolds Metals	48¾	49¼
Roadway Svcs	62¾	63¾
Rockwell Intl	36¾	36¾
Rohm & Haas	54¼	54½
Royal Dutch	103¼	103¾
Rubbermaid	33¾	33¾
Safeco Corp	56¾	56¾
St Paul Cos	90¾	90¾
Salomon Inc	45¾	44¾
Santa Fe Pac	21¼	21¼
Sara Lee Corp	27	27¼
Scecorp	20¾	20¾
Schering Plough	64	64¼
Schlumberger	39¾	39¾
Scott Paper	39¾	39¾
Seagram	26¾	26¼
Sears Roebuck	55¾	55
Shell Trans	93	93¾
Sherwin Wilms	33	33
Skyline Corp	17¾	17¾
Snap-On-Tools	37¾	37¾
Southern Co	42¾	43
Sthwestern Bell	42¾	42¾
Sprint Corp	32¾	32¾
Stanley Works	40¾	40¾
Sun Company	30¾	30¾
Sunstrnd	44¼	44¼
Supervalu	32¾	32¾
Symtex Corp	16¾	16¾
Sysco Corp	30¾	30¾
TRW Inc	66¾	69
Tandem Comp	11¾	11¼
Tndy Corp	46¼	46
Telecom Corp	3¾	3
Teledyne	25¾	25¾
Templte Inland	49¾	49¾
Tenneco	48¾	48
Texaco	63¾	64¼
Texas Instr	60	59¾
Texas Utilities	42¾	42¾
Textron	55¾	53
Time Warner	44¼	44¼
Times-Mirror	33¾	34
Timken	32¾	32¾
Torchmark	43¾	43¾
Toys R Us	40	40¼
Trnscontinntl	57	56¾
Travelers Corp	31¾	32¾
Tribune	58¾	58¾
Tyco Labs	46¾	47¼
UAL Corp	149¾	150¼
UST Inc	26¾	26¾
USX Marathon	17¾	17¾
Unilever NV	116¾	116¾
Union Camp	47¾	47¾
Union Carbide	22¾	21¾
Union Pacific	61¼	61¼
Unisys Corp	11¼	11¼
USAIR Group	13¾	13¾
USFRG Corp	13	12¾
US Life	37¾	37¾
US West	46¾	46¾
United Tech	62¾	62¾
Unocal Corp	26¾	26¾
Upjohn	30	30¾
VF Corp	44	43¾
WMX Tech	27	27
Wal-Mart Stores	27	27¾
Warner-Lambert	63¾	64¼
Wells Fargo	121	120
Westinghouse El	13¾	13¾
Weyerhaeuser	43	43¾
Whirlpool	62¾	62¾
Whittman	16¾	16¾
Winn Dixie	54	54¼
Woolworth	23¾	23¾
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	43¾	43¾
Xerox	88	88¾

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust LLoyds Insce (100)	93	...
Abtrust Lloyds Wts	40	...
Amicable Smlr Ent (100)	101	...
Angerstein (100)	97	...
Azlan (230)	257	...
Badgerline (115)	109	+2
Biotrace Intl (130)	151	...
CLM Insce (100)	103	...
Celltech (250)	217½	...
DFS Furniture (260)	295	-3
Fenchurch (180)	173	...
Finsbury Undrwrtng Inv	108	...
For & Col Smaller (100)	100½	...
Gartmore (168)	186	+2
Govett High Inc (100)	107	+1
HCG Lloyds Inv Tst (100)	101	-1
Harmony Leisure Wts	4½	...
Hozelock (250)	249	...
Inspirations (100)	111	...
Johnson Fry Utils (100)	111	...
Johnson Fry Zero Pf (100)	104¾	+ ½
Lilliput (135)	121	...
Litho Supplies (190)	210	+1
Masthead Insce (100)	108	+1
Milligare (40)	41	-1
Morgan Gren Eqty C (100)	103	...
NM Smllr Aust (100)	100	...
NM Smllr Wts	45	...
New London Capital (100)	97	+1
On Demand Info (78)	110	...
Pilot Inv C (100)	100	...
Premium Trust	94	...
Premium Undrwrtng	112	+3
Royal Doulton	223	+2
Ruberoid (150)	163	...
Syndicate Capital (100)	96	...
Syndicate Capital Wts	37	...
Telspec (160)	193	+10
Ugland Intl	103	-2
Wigmore Property Inv (100)	98	...
Wigmore Property Wts	42	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Banner Homes n/p (89)	33 ...
Greycoat n/p (12¼)	3½ ...
NFC n/p (195)	23-11
Wyevale Garden n/p (152)	19 ...

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	8,900	Cadbury	1,100	MEPC	418	Scot Power	2,300
Abbey Natl	2,000	Camdon	844	Marks Spr	1,400	Sears	1,800
Alld-Lyons	1,200	Carlton Cms	471	NFC	1,800	Svrn Trent	1,900
Anglian W	989	Coats Vy	3,300	NatWst Bk	4,900	Shell Trans	3,000
Argyll Gp	3,100	Cm Union	1,500	Nat Power	3,100	Stebe	1,000
Arjo Wiggn	851	Courtaulds	467	Nth Wst W	2,200	SmKl Bch	4,100
AB Foods	139	Enterpr Oil	3,000	Nthrn Fds	1,300	Smith Nph	1,400
BAA	810	Forte	2,500	P & O	1,600	Southern Elec	446
BAT Inds	2,700	GRE	719	Pearson	674	Std Chartd	731
BOC	384	GUS	2,300	PowerGen	1,900	Sun Allince	1,100
BP	9,800	Gen Acc	640	Prudential	2,000	TI Gp	388
BT	7,200	Gen Elec	9,000	RMC	476	TSB	5,100
BTR	4,800	Glaxo	3,400	RTZ	2,500	Tesco	5,700
Bk of Scot	2,600	Granada	1,900	Rank Org	1,600	Thames W	3,300
Barclays	2,600	Grand Met	5,600	Reckitt Col	302	Thrn EMI	1,000
Bass	1,300	Guinness	1,500	Redland	989	Tomkins	3,400
Blue Circle	2,300	HSBC	1,900	Reed Intl	803	Unilever	872
Boots	1,100	Hanson	5,400	Rentokil	454	Utd Biscs	1,600
Bowater	1,600	ICI	799	Reuters	771	Vodafone	1,200
Brit Aero	1,300	Inchcape	711	Rolls Royce	4,100	Warburg (SG)	407
Brit Airways	2,200	Kingfisher	1,100	Ryl Ins	3,800	Wellcome	8,500
Brit Gas	4,200	Ladbroke	12,000	Ryl Bk Scot	3,500	Whitbd 'A'	719
Brit Steel	6,300	Land Secs	901	Sainsbury	1,600	Wilms Hld	515
Burmah Cast	91	Legal & Gn	145	Schroders	179	Wolseley	453
Cable Wire	2,200	Lloyds Bk	2,400	Scot & New	2,200	Zeneca	1,300

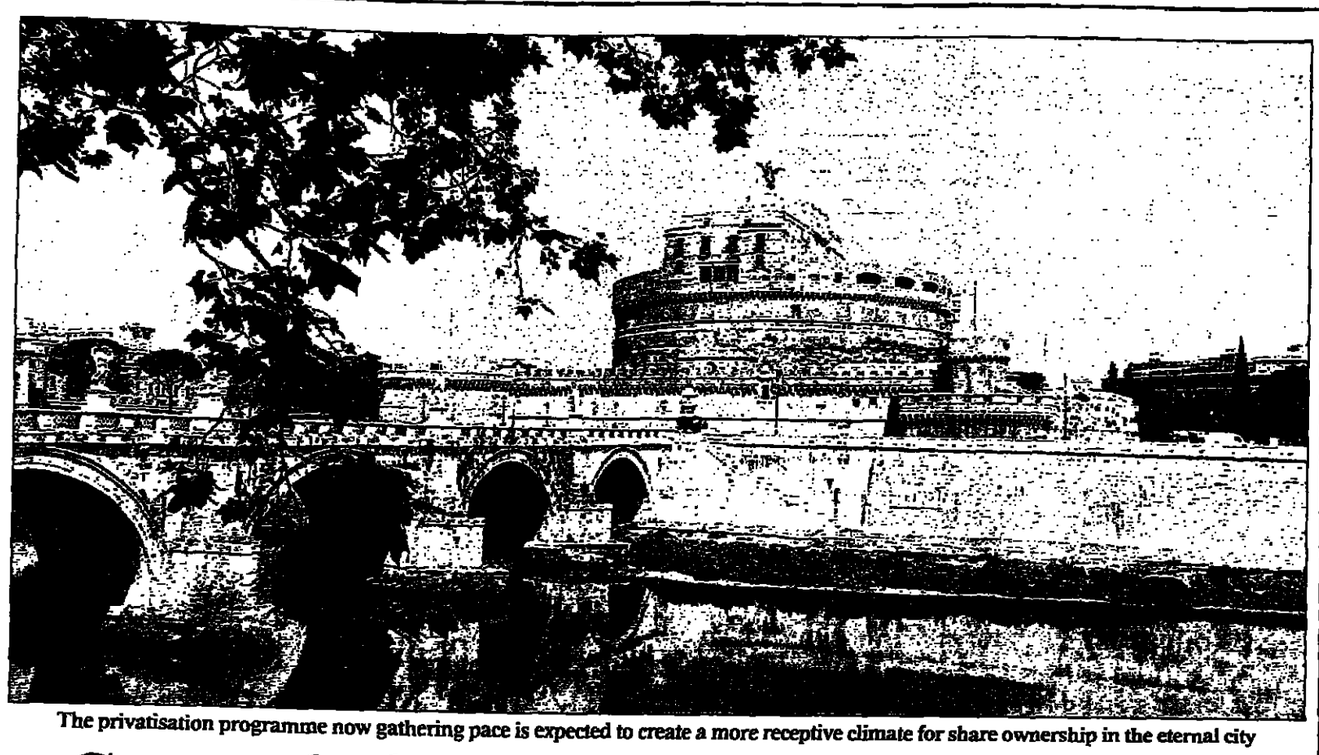
FT-SE INDEX (*9251)

	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350
Calls						
Dec	161	111	63	22	3½	1
Jan	183	140	102	69	43	25
Feb	201	161	122	92	66	44
Mar	214	176	141	110	83	61
Jun	250	—	182	—	126	—
Puts						
Dec	1	1	3½	15	50	100
Jan	14	20	34	52	79	114
Feb	39	36	49	69	94	125
Mar	59	50	65	85	110	139
Jun	67	—	100	—	143	—

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	420	41½	48½	56½	5½	15½	18
(*4524)	460	14½	28	36	28½	32	36½
Ladbroke	160	14½	17½	22	11½	18½	23½
(*1601)	180	6½	10	14	25	32½	36
Utd Biscs	300	31½	35¾	40	7½	14½	19
(*350½)	360	14¼	18½	25	31½	32	32

December 13, 1993 Tot. Calls 26434 Call: 16847 Put: 7787 FT-SE Call: 6078 Put: 2494
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Allid Lyon.	600	29	46	57½	12½	22	34
(*616½)	650	6	22	29½	47½	49	62½
Argyll	240	24½	32	36	4½	8½	15
(*258)	260	12½	21	25	12½	17	25
ASDA	90	5	7	9	5	5½	6½
(*91½)	60	2	3½	5½	10	12	13
Boots	550	18	33½	43½	16	26	35½
(*559)	600	3½	14	22	53	58	66
Br Airways	420	30	41½	50	10½	19	26½
(*438)	460	11	22	31	32	39	44
BP	300	29	36	39½	3½	7	13
(*324)	330	11½	17	23½	14	20	26
Br Steel	130	10	15	19	5	9½	12
(*134)	140	5	10	15	11	15	17½
C & W	475	25½	39	51½	12	20½	28
(*490½)	500	14	27	37½	25½	34	42
CU	600	54	91½	72½	3½	13½	18½
(*646½)	650	17	38	43½	19½	34½	41
ICI	680	74½	—	—	3½	—	—
(*747½)	750	24½	36	48	24½	47½	54½
Kingfisher	700	45	62½	71½	8½	21	32
(*731½)	750	16½	34	45½	33	43½	51
Land Sec	750	54	69½	77½	4	10½	14½
(*795)	800	18½	37	46½	21½	28	43
M & S	420	32	45	47	5	10½	15½
(*445½)	460	8½	19½	25½	22½	28½	34½
Nat West	550	45	55½	62½	6	19½	24½
(*585½)	600	15½	29½	36½	26½	44½	50½
Sainsbury	420	18	31	41	12½	21	29½
(*426)	460	3½	16	25	39	43	53
Shell	650	54½	60½	68	3	13	19
(*690½)	700	18	37½	38½	18	35	41
SmkI Bch	360	28	38	48	9	18½	25½
(*374½)	390	13	25	35½	25	34½	41
Sthwstse	220	14	22	26½	5	9½	13½
(*231½)	240	3½	12½	16½	16½	21	25
Trafalgar	80	11½	14	17	3½	5	6½
(*87½)	90	5	9½	11½	9	9½	12
Unilever	1150	46	67½				



The privatisation programme now gathering pace is expected to create a more receptive climate for share ownership in the eternal city

Scandal overshadows Italy's dash for popular capitalism

Despite corruption and falling earnings, the country's first bank privatisation was over-subscribed, **Patricia Tehan** reports

The privatisation of state-owned assets is never straightforward. Least of all in Italy, where the Treasury faces the combined challenge of persuading the Italian public to buy shares and of convincing a cynical audience of foreign institutions that Italian industry, overshadowed by a corruption scandal, has cleaned up its act.

The programme, promised in July 1992, has been subject to delays, political obstruction, resignation threats and argument over the method of privatisation. This is despite the widely accepted view that the government has to sell assets to reduce the budget deficit.

In November, with next spring's elections looming, the privatisation strategy was rushed into place. It began with the sale last week of a 67 per cent stake in Credito Italiano, the country's seventh-largest bank in terms of assets. The sale followed unsuccessful attempts to sell Credito to a domestic or foreign institution at the end of last year.

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, Italy's prime minister, has favoured the use of the stock market to sell state assets, following the British example. Given the need to demonstrate that Italy is purging itself of corruption, the last thing the government wanted was for control to end up in the hands of the country's scandal-ridden industrial and financial institutions. A senior Italian treasury official said the government had made a "gigantic effort" to show that Italy was making significant progress. "It was a very radical, traumatic, sweeping clean-up", he said.

The official said it was unavoidable that potential investors would be influenced by the scandals, but added: "For people who are thinking of investing in Italy, it is the future that matters, not the past." If evidence of further corruption emerged, he said, the government would react in the same way. "We do not try to sweep everything under the carpet. We put people in jail."

He said the aim of the privatisation programme was to create as wide a shareholder base as possible. The government wanted to tap the Italian savings market, one of the biggest in the world, but it aimed to sell to both domestic and overseas investors. Mario Draghi, director-general of the treasury, said: "I hope that the only problem I will have is competition between foreign and domestic investors fighting for the same piece of meat." The government has taken heart from the success of the public offer for Credito, which was six times subscribed. The international offer was five to six times covered at the strike price. Of the 879 million shares for sale, 525 million were set aside for Italian savers, and 275 million for Italian and foreign institutions. Of the latter, 45 million went to Italian firms, 95 million to American ones and 135 million to others, including the UK. Another 40 million were held back for a bonus share issue and 39 million to ensure an orderly after-market.

The shares were sold at L2,075 (82p) each — a 9.6 per cent discount. Investors are being offered a one-for-ten bonus if they keep them for three years. At the end of last week, the shares were trading at L2,400. The offer brought in L1,830 billion (£731 million) for IRI, the state holding company for some of the assets being sold. Credito had emerged largely unscathed from the corruption scandals, with the exception of a large, but so far unspecified, exposure to Ferruzzi, to which it is one of the five biggest lenders. However, in its pre-sale roadshow, Credito showed that even on a worst-case scenario, the level of provisions required for Ferruzzi was not enough to constrain lending.

The Italians are not wasting any time in working their way through the remaining six on the short-list of companies to be privatised. Scepticism over the wisdom of selling three banks in two and a half months has been brushed aside. The next two to go will be Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (IMI), based in Rome, and Banca Commerciale Italiana (Comit), the country's sixth-biggest bank. Both are to be sold in February. The Credito shares were not as heavily discounted as some had predicted; despite the recent weakness of Italy's banks, their reputations damaged by the scandals, falling earnings and soaring bad debts, demand was there.

The senior treasury official said he believed fund managers would not set limits on the proportions of Italian bank shares in their portfolios; investment portfolios increased in size with privatisations. He said: "We are discovering that the financial markets get bigger." IMI was "a very different product from Comit" and he expected most of the interest to come from institutions.

The IMI sales campaign swings into action early next month. The treasury is expected to sell a first tranche of between a quarter and a third of its 60 per cent stake, which would raise between £671 million and £1 billion. The treasury intends to sell its entire stake over time and some of IMI's other investors, which include insurance companies and banks, are thought likely to use the privatisation as an opportunity to sell.

The treasury's sale of its stake in IMI is its second attempt to sell the bank. Talks about a sale to Cariplo, the Milan savings bank, ended this year when the two sides failed to agree a price. The IMI sale is thought likely to be the simplest of the three. IMI is Italy's eighth-biggest bank in terms of assets. In the past, the group has focused on long-term industrial lending, mostly to state-owned companies. About 96 per cent of customer loans at the end of 1992 had either a government guarantee attached or some other form of mortgage or security collateral backing. Bad debts are a third of the national average.

Although IMI's lack of a retail network means it is less well known than the other two banks, its profit performance and strong capital base are thought likely to make the bank attractive to financial institutions. IMI sees the privatisation as an opportunity to build up its investment banking and investment management activities. The privatisation programme will help, as IMI is adviser to the government on at least two of the sales, including its own. Analysts say the engines of future profits growth are likely to be investment banking and personal financial services.

Rainer Masera, IMI's director-general, said privatisation of Italy's biggest companies was important for IMI, as it would provide a route for growth. "We see a gradual shift in our activities from traditional lending to investment banking and broking," he said.

The Comit sale will begin in February, immediately after that of IMI is over; the sale of IRI's 57 per cent stake is expected to be completed by the beginning of March. Comit poses more difficulties for IRI. Like Credito, it is heavily exposed to Ferruzzi. Two of its former top officials have also been implicated in recent scandals. One has admitted taking a bribe; the other, who runs a Monaco bank of which Comit owns 40 per cent, has not responded to a warrant for his arrest.

Italian domestic banking is in any case experiencing drastic reorganisation. The past few months have seen several mergers of regional banks and the three privatisations will push reorganisation further.

The bank privatisations, and later those of INA, the insurance company, planned for June, of ENEL, the electricity generating company, ENI, the state energy company, and STET, the telecoms company, will swell equity capitalisation on the Milan bourse, where trading is patchy compared with the London, Frankfurt and Paris exchanges. Further measures will help, including a law to create private pension funds. It is hoped that this will create a new force of Italian institutional share traders.

Signor Masera believes the privatisations might help "to create a more modern risk capital market in Italy". Traditionally, he said, buying equities had been regarded as a speculative act. Those who held them were taking risks and therefore, from a fiscal point of view, were regarded with suspicion. He hopes that one result of the privatisation process will be to achieve a change in culture, so that it is as acceptable to invest in shares as to buy government bonds.

TEMPUS

Instrument failure

THE wheel of misfortune at Fisons has turned full circle. Two years ago, almost to the day, the group gave the first in a series of profit warnings followed soon after by the departure of John Kerridge, the chairman. Yesterday, the man chosen to sort the mess out was unceremoniously thrown to the wolves as the downward spiral continued.

The greatest irony is that Fisons' present troubles are concentrated in its instruments division which held the group together two years ago when the pharmaceuticals side was crumbling. The division's sudden reversal from dependable profits to a £16 million loss shows it was seriously neglected while the board's attention was elsewhere. This was the business Cedric Scroggs ran for 11 years before his promotion to chief executive last year, so he could hardly escape the blame.

What shareholders may find even harder to forgive, however, is the group's long-standing accounting quirk of stuffing wholesalers with unwanted stock at the end of each year to enhance profits, a practice which will cost £28 million to unwind.

By announcing this latest profit warning and restructuring, Fisons has signed away any hope of long-term independence, a fact that prevented the shares falling any further. The group will slim its instruments business and squeeze £25 million more profit out of pharmaceuticals by cutting staff. But all the upheaval will prevent it addressing the long term problem that it has no successor to Tilade, its anti-asthma drug. Even the board now questions whether the group is large enough to survive on its own, and the next chief executive's main job may simply be to make the group more palatable for a bidder. Given its recent accident-prone record, potential predators are going to be deeply wary of striking too soon or paying too much.

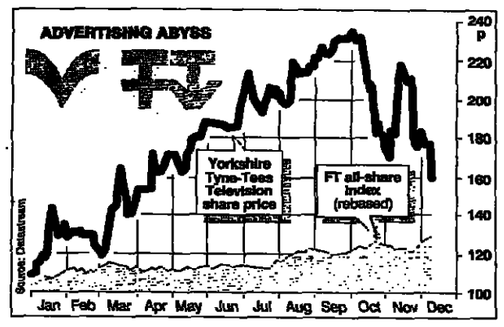
YTT

WITH the Granada/LWT bid rumbling in the background, once can scarcely blame Yorkshire-Tyne Tees for delaying its results, but the outcome for the current year could prove more embarrassing than the £9.5 million loss for the year to September estimated so far.

Yorkshire will be paying out some £12 million in cash to compensate advertisers for the aggressive practices of its former sales team but, more importantly, Yorkshire is sorting out the mess during the final quarter of the year, a critical period for advertising.

To be a really attractive prospect for LWT, YTT needs to lift its share of the ITV advertising market to 12 per cent from just over 10 per cent, a task made more difficult by last year's débâcle. And a return to anything like its demographic share of the viewing population, reckoned to be 15 per cent, may now be impossible. Any alliance between LWT and YTT would depend on a rapid return to profit for the latter but that seems difficult without significant cost cuts. Far from being a possible trump for LWT, Yorkshire is beginning to look more like a joker.

Yorkshire would need to dispose of Tyne Tees to satisfy the ITC but the attractions of an LWT/YTT merger assume an alliance with Anglia, designed to create an East Coast bloc. Structuring pre-emption rights that would satisfy the ITC, while offering sufficient promise to shareholders could prove an interesting legal challenge.



Greene King

GREENE King has never really recovered its poise since the bruising failure of its bid for Morland last year. Now it has produced the dullest figures in a miserable results season for the brewery sector, with profits as much as £2 million lower than City forecasts.

The company has in part become a victim of its geography. East Anglia has suffered the sharpest fall in beer consumption, down 7 per cent compared with an average 3 per cent fall nationwide. This shows why GK has been so keen to diversify from its home territory, a hunger satisfied by buying 44 London pubs from Bass.

GK has also suffered from the success of its beers. Almost half of its production is sold to the free trade, more than any other regional brewer but margins in this area are being squeezed tight by the majors. These factors are depressing earnings, even though its managed houses are showing a decent rise in food and drink sales. The City had been forecasting year-end profits of £23 million, but now GK will struggle to make more than £20 million.

The bottom line pressure raises questions about the future of its remaining 29 per cent stake in Morland, which costs £1.1 million a year in interest charges. There has always been a chance that GK might bid again, but Morland, with a £115 million market value, is beginning to look an impossibly large mouthful for GK, which has a capitalisation of £236 million. GK is showing a £6 million book profit on the Morland stake, and given that there are plenty of cheaper pub assets on the market the company may soon be tempted to realise some of that. GK shares, and the company, should regain some balance when the threat of a future bid is lifted.

London Electricity

THE electricity distributors are doing enough rebalancing to make a trapeze artist proud. London Electricity is the third regional electricity company to increase its interim dividend in proportion to the full year, but the 32 per cent increase in its half-year payout puts even the bumper distributions by Midland and Eastern to shame. Ostensibly, such rebalancing has been prompted by the change in the coal contracts that has altered the phasing of option payments to favour the summer period, but one senses that this is an excuse for another contest of one-upmanship among the RECs over who produce the most astonishing dividend increase. London may have felt stung by its unexciting image and decided to make a bit of a splash with its distribution.

The very fact that several RECs are rebalancing their dividend shows how awash with cash they are. Most companies prefer to conserve their cash flow for as long as possible and decide on the dividend for the full year when all is safely gathered in. Such generosity can only increase the determination of Professor Stephen Littlechild as he approaches next year's distribution review.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Tax officer's estimates amounted to granny-bashing

From Mr H. H. Ogilvy

Sir, In November 1992, an elderly lady of my acquaintance received a peremptory demand for £523 in respect of tax due for the year 1992-93, based on an estimated £5,000 gross interest from her building society account. From documents already in his possession, it should have been clear to the inspector that her estimated total income for 1992-93 (gross interest and DSS pension) could not possibly exceed her personal allowance of £4,200, i.e. tax liability nil.

On this lady's behalf, I wrote to the inspector asking him, inter alia, to consider the adverse consequences such unexpected demands could have on elderly persons, especially those not conversant with the simple mathematical procedures required to estimate future income during a period of changing interest rates. My letter was not acknowledged.

In November of this year, the same lady received a demand for £498, again based on an entirely fictional estimate of £5,000 gross interest (for the year 1993-94).

As before, I wrote to the inspector in the expectation of receiving an explanation. Again, my letter has been ignored.

Do such bully-boy, granny-bashing tactics merely reflect the style of individual inspectors or do they represent the official policy of the Inland Revenue in general? Not, one hopes, the latter.

Yours faithfully,
H. H. OGILVY
The Leys Cottage,
Derwent Avenue,
Matlock,
Derbyshire.

Revolting name for cars is non-starter

From Mr Nigel L. Denton

Sir, I was somewhat confused by the headline on the front of the Business Section "Volvo halts Renault merger after revolt" (some editions, December 3) because I had always assumed that the planned merger would give rise to a portmanteau-style name for the new company, namely, Revolt!

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL L. DENTON
12 Maria Court,
Southcote Road,
Reading,
Berkshire.

With effect from

Monday 10th January, 1994

Coutts & Co will reduce

the credit interest rate on

their VISA Classic Card from

1.65% to 1.50% per month

(APR 20.30%)

Coutts & Co

440 Strand, London WC2R 0QS

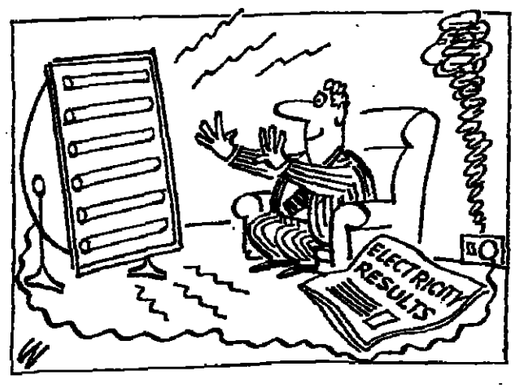
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Cisco kids are ready to ride

ALMOST a year to the day since word came through that the Unlisted Securities Market was to close in 1995, the Stock Exchange is set to announce a successor. The City Group for Smaller Companies (Cisco), which has campaigned feverishly for a replacement to the popular USM, expects the powers that be at Old Broad Street to give its proposals the go-ahead at a meeting on Thursday. The development has delighted Cisco's co-founders — Richard Balarkas, Andrew Beeson of Beeson Gregory and the ubiquitous Brian Winterflood, alias "The Cisco Kid". "We're very pleased," says Beeson, who dreamt up the idea of Cisco over lunch with Balarkas at La Cantina, Sir Terence Conran's Butler's Wharf eaterie, just over a year ago. "We have achieved more things than we could possibly have hoped." Cisco, which has 105 members from the City and is keen to recruit even more, intends to keep up the fight for smaller companies by lobbying on taxation and other topical issues. Winterflood, formerly known as "Mr USM", plans to celebrate the good news in his usual style. He will spend the New Year exploring the steamy jungles of Papua New Guinea.

Mississippi fruits

BIRMINGHAM-based IMI, the UK engineering group, will look to the more romantic images of Mississippi riverboats and Indian reservations for hopes of growth for its latest acquisition across the Big Pond. IMI disclosed yesterday that it has bought Casino Tokens of Las Vegas for $3.2 million. The American company provides the tokens by which endless punters hope to get rich in the neon-lit gambling palaces of Nevada. What it doesn't say, however, is two engines for the acquisition's growth in recent times have been the permission given for folk to gamble on the famous showboats that ply Mark Twain territory, along with the introduction of fruit machines to Indian territories in America. One last plus for the boys from Spaghetti Junction is that, apparently, as US interest rates have moved southwards, gambling has enjoyed a new fillip.



City loss

THERE is widespread sadness in the Square Mile over the untimely death of Alasdair Stewart, 30, engineering analyst at BZW, who suffered a heart attack at the weekend. He joined the firm from Carr, Kitcat & Aitken last summer and was well liked. Bill Smith, head of research at BZW, said: "It is a tremendous shock. We extend our sympathies to his family." Alasdair previously held posts with Nikko Securities, Charterhouse Tilney and Chase Manhattan.

Norwich no how

THERE was some embarrassment at the Christmas media party thrown by Norwich & Peterborough building society last week. It coincided with live TV and radio coverage of Norwich City's UEFA Cup-tie against Internazionale in Italy, possibly the biggest game in the East Anglian club's history. Reporters were surprised to find no TV or radios amidst the tinkling glasses and conversation to keep tabs on how "the lads" were doing. I am told it fell to a reporter returning to his office to phone the party with the result — a one-nil defeat for Norwich. The timing was regrettable. Norwich & Peterborough is the club's sponsor.

Aboard BZW

SIMON Johnson has resigned as hotel and leisure analyst at Kleinwort Benson after four years to join BZW, where he starts in the new year. Johnson, 29, will work alongside Peter Hillier who will focus more on corporate broking.

THIS year's batch of City Christmas cards is proving even more entertaining than usual. Today's prize for innovation goes to Scottish Financial Enterprise, which has tastefully reproduced the Star of Bethlehem shining over Calton hill in Edinburgh. As the caption puts it: a product of world standing.

JON ASHWORTH

Small losses for new account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end December 31. §Contango day January 4. Settlement day January 10. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
487	345	Abbey Nil	461	- 5	11.8	3.2	17.8
290	179	Allied Irish	278	...	...	3.7	14.2
226½	130	Aus New Z	222½	- 1½	...	3.9	∞
3980	2712½	Bankamerica	3031½	+12½	...	...	...
395	177	Bk of Ireland	276	...	...	4.3	20.4
350	325	Bk Levant Utd	350	...	17.0	6.1	...
230½	116½	Bank Scotland	226½	- 2	4.6	2.6	30.8
646	362	Barclays	609	- 2	...	2.6	...
4¼	2	Benchmark	4¼	...	...	...	5.9
24½	15½	Carlisle	24½	+ 2½	...	...	...
598	395	Chez Allen	594 †	+ 5	28.0	5.9	...
153	85	Cattles	150	...	...	1.8	20.0
2687½	1787½	Chase Manh	2237½	- 21½	...	...	...
2600	1343½	Citicorp	2362½	- 31½	...	...	...
482	280	Close Bros	465	...	...	2.8	17.6
6155	5225	Continental	6151	- 100	...	2.6	...
1346	1250½	Deutsche Bk	1345½	- 65½	...	1.8	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	90	...	...	1.1	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	0.4	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	454	...	21.5	5.9	12.1
829	490	HSBC	826	+ 8½	20.0	3.0	19.8
841	674	HSBC HK	835	+ 6	20.0	3.0	20.0
403	243	Hambros	370	...	14.3	4.8	17.1
428	313	Joseph (L)	418 †	+ 1½	16.7	5.0	...
158	96	King Shaxson	130 †	...	9.0	8.7	...
549	312	Kleinwort Ben	541	- 6	16.7	3.9	18.8
688	492	Lloyds	619	- 2	19.1	3.9	17.7
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	94	...	2.9	3.9	16.6
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	548	...	...	3.9	∞
620	398	Nat West	589	- 5	17.8	3.8	35.0
460	270	Provident	448	...	12.4	3.5	19.4
54	39	Rea Bros	52	...	0.5	1.3	55.3
482	207	Ryl Bk Scot	427 †	- 3	...	3.1	23.3
1335	467½	Schroders	1258	- 5	...	1.2	25.1
1259	576	Stand Chart	1195	- 17	20.5	2.7	...
250	165½	TSB	248	+ 5	6.4	3.2	...
140	78	Union Disc	107	...	...	...	...
940	528	Warburg SG	894	- 6	...	2.8	13.1
8600	4843½	Wells Fargo	8037½	-118½	...	2.5	...
205	121	Westpac	203	...	...	2.5	∞
325	188	Wintrust	315	- 3	9.3	3.7	28.2

BREWERIES

649	517	Allied-Lyons	619 †	- ½	...	4.3	17.1
367	252	Bass	322 †	- 1½	...	4.7	14.3
299	189	Boddington	287	+ 5	7.5	3.0	16.6
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	418	...	...	3.0	18.2
184	128	Burtonwood Bre	175	...	4.7	3.4	14.6
144	75	Eldridge P 'A'	143	- 1	...	3.2	∞
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	62	...	...	2.5	22.8
435	338	Fuller Sm 'A'	418	+ 3	7.5	2.1	17.8
480	373	Grand Met	458	+ 4	...	3.6	17.5
327	240	Greenalls Grp	315	+ 4	...	3.8	14.0
575	506	Greene King	553	+ 4	...	3.6	17.5
521	388	Guinness	469	+ 3	...	3.2	17.5
288	230	Hardy Hanson	286	...	8.5	4.6	...
138	105	Hawthorne	115	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
352	255	Highland Dist	330	- 1	...	2.5	16.4
3138	2538	Hsit J	3135	...	62.0	1.7	30.4
80	33	Hoskins Brew	78 #	...	...	1.7	39.2
325	280	Invergordon Dist	301	...	...	3.9	17.3
186	118	Macallan-Glen	130	...	...	4.2	20.2
465	375	Maxim Mann 'A'	385	...	4.3	1.1	28.2
225	164	Mansfield	194 †	+ ½	...	2.6	13.9
299	231	Marston Thmp	287	- 1	...	2.5	17.0
557	288½	Matthew Clark	557	+10	...	4.0	18.6
300	210	Morgan Crucible	293 †	+4	7.0	2.4	16.4
588	455	Morland	538	- 5	9.7	2.3	∞
12	6½	Paramount A	8½	...	...	2.1	∞
204	149	Regent Inns	204	...	...	2.8	20.7
1225	753	SA Breweries	1221 †	+24	...	2.2	20.7
554	395	Scot & Newc	537	- 5	...	4.0	16.3
225	155½	Taunton Cider	162 †	+ ½	6.2	4.8	12.6
270	213	Vaux Group	270	+ 4	9.3	4.2	19.2
397	325	Wetherspoon JD	375	...	...	2.1	23.2
574½	435	Whitbread 'A'	572	+ 3	...	3.9	17.7
613	463	Wolverhmpn D	523 †	- 7	12.6	3.0	...
515	475	Young 'A'	485	...	14.7	3.8	20.1

BUILDING, ROADS

140	73	Abbey	140	...	...	1.7	23.0
25½	12½	Albrighton A	18	...	...	0.7	...
149	87	Allen A	148 †	+ 4½	...	4.2	33.5
120	68	Amec	116	- 1	3.0	3.2	21.5
12	4	Anglia Sec	7½	...	...	...	...
326	150	Ashtead	322	...	...	1.8	34.2
143	101	Ashwoods	125	+ 1	...	4.0	...
316	180	BPB Ind	316	+ 3	...	3.0	37.8
118	63	Baggeridge Brk	92	- 1	8.1	4.2	30.9
34	18	Bailey (Geo) Con	26	...	0.6	2.9	...
108	74	Barrow	85	+ 2	1.2	1.8	19.4
56½	32½	Bardon	42	...	2.0	6.0	20.7
214	94	Barratt Devs	212	- 1	4.0	2.4	∞
460	305	Bellway	457	...	12.0	3.3	∞
63	15	Bellwinch	41	...	...	...	...
480	285½	Berkeley Gp	480	+20	...	1.6	25.8
116	65	Best Bros	108	...	...	2.3	13.9
63	36	Bicc Hldgs	46	- 1	1.0	2.7	30.8
355	189	Bine Circle	338	- 7	...	4.3	...
288	200	Boot (Henry)	273	...	8.0	2.7	15.3
106	78	Breedon PLC	92	...	4.6	6.2	22.6
131	82	Br Dredging	130	...	5.2	5.0	28.9
86	45	Brit Fittings	80	...	1.7	2.7	...
158	99	Bryant	158	+ 2	...	3.8	31.9
153	53	CALA	122	- 1	...	2.4	...
340	200	CRH	339	- 1	...	2.5	18.6
43	18	Calebrand Rby	20	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Cassain	27½	...	...	...	...
150	89½	Countryside	147	+ 3	...	3.6	∞
100	38	Crest Nicholson	97	...	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	102	...	...	1.2	...
7¾	1¾	Dunton A	5½	...	...	...	...
25	15	Edmond Hdgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	...
285	178	Epwin	273	- 3	7.0	3.2	20.1
59	22	Ethin	58	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Groups A	465	- 3	...	2.8	17.1
6½	3	Exploracia	4½	...	...	...	...
140	97	Freeman Gp	138	...	...	4.7	21.2
50	38	Galliford	38	...	...	3.3	...
61	32	Gibbs & Dandy	59	...	...	3.4	...
923	695	Glenlion (SO)	890	...	...	1.8	15.8
164	90	Hewden-Stuart	156	...	...	1.8	27.8
31	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	33.6
404	186	Heywd Wms	403	+ 5	13.0	4.3	...
119	37	Higgs & Hill	111	+ 1	2.5	2.8	...
38	26	How Gp	28	...	...	5.0	...
21	15	Howard Hldgs	21	...	...	3.8	...
78	39	Hsrock Johnsen	71	...	...	1.8	...
19½	12½	Jarvis	13½	...	...	...	...
316	198	Laing (J)	303	...	9.0	3.7	12.1
127½	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	127½	...	...	6.6	...
110	55	Lk Clydesdale A	110	...	4.5	5.1	41.4
23	10½	Lovell (Y)	15½	...	...	...	7.0
350	240	Manders	338	+ 6	9.3	3.6	19.8
183	93	Marley	176	- 1	4.2	3.0	51.6
127	61	Marshalls	121	+ 1	...	4.2	...
190	122	Marstrs (J)	190	...	...	3.4	18.3
219	96	McAlpine (A)	219	+ 6	6.5	3.7	37.9
47	23	McCarthy & S	41	+ 1	0.5	1.5	...
504	272	Meyer Int	499	+ 4	...	2.5	50.0
129	62	Mowlem (J)	125	...	4.0	4.0	...
165	51	NSM	155	- 3	...	...	...
53	48	Needler A	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
171	108	Newman Tnks	157	...	...	5.3	21.0
300	197	Persimmon	259	- 1	8.6	3.9	28.5
26	10	Phoenix Timber	10	...	...	...	...
1725	1237½	Pochins	1580	...	39.0	2.4	21.8
168	80	Prowting	167	+ 2	3.4	2.5	...
6½	1½	Quilligotte A	1½	...	...	...	...
909	555	RMC Gp	899	- 3	...	2.8	33.8
117	75½	Raine Ind	82	...	...	4.6	19.4
36	18	Ramsden	34	...	...	...	...
603	402	Redland	593	+12	25.0	5.4	33.9
88	64	Rosksl	80	...	4.3	6.7	11.8
319	207	Rugby Group	313	- 1	6.4	2.6	20.8
98	23	Scrivtl-Sova	47	- 1	...	0.5	...
165	68	Sharpe & Fisher	162	...	...	3.1	28.2
253	86½	Sheffield Insl	252	...	...	2.7	61.8
175	82	Sheriff Hldgs A	175	...	...	1.6	26.1
240	66	Shorco	93	...	...	7.0	21.1
190	106	Smart (J)	122	...	...	4.8	16.7
6½	1½	Stanmix	2	...	...	...	...
169	100	Tarmac	166	- 1	5.5	4.7	...
197	79	Tay Homes	172	...	...	4.6	20.4
139	63	Taylor Woodrw	138	- 3	1.0	0.9	...
633	433	Tilbury Dougls	618	- 5	33.0	6.7	20.1
39	19	Toren Hire A	34	...	...	1.5	...
265	168	Travis Perkins	265	+ 1	8.0	3.4	51.9
60	25	Try Group	28	...	1.0	4.5	7.9
28	21	Tunnel	21	...	...	1.5	...
91	41	Vibroplant	86	...	2.5	3.6	30.9
58	33	Ward Hldgs	48	...	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	31	...	...	...	...
495	380	Watts Blake	430	...	...	...	...
21½	6½	Wescols	20	...	...	3.5	18.5
97	57	Westbury	180	+ 2	5.0	3.5	28.1
12	4½	West Scaffolds	7	...	...	...	...
4½	3	Wiggins	3½	...	...	...	...
457½	362	Wilson Bowdn	455	+ 2	...	2.4	32.0
205	147	Wilson (C)	183	...	3.9	2.7	31.7
144	104	Wimpey G	134	- 4	...	3.8	...
47	15	YRM	19	...	0.5	3.3	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

675	463	ADT	578	...	...	...	...
253	198	Adsm & Harvey	250	...	13.0	6.5	4.6
56	36	Air Londonia	51	...	...	7.2	10.9
58	37	Alfreton Labor	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
118	93	Amid Sec	130	...	...	5.0	23.3
126	84	BET Ord	137½	...	...	2.0	5.5
119	41	BWD	116	...	4.9	5.4	...
215	175	Barbour Index	213	...	8.3	4.5	12.9
265	198	Barrow Inden	240	...	10.0	4.2	16.4
28	15	Bristol Water	28	...	...	5.0	...
264	184	Brit Data Mgt	212	- 2	4.7	2.7	16.3
31	21	Broadcastdata	31	...	...	1.4	17.5
53	34	Brooks Service	37	...	...	2.7	...
109	86	CRT Gp	97	+ 1	...	3.8	17.1
193	139½	Capita Group	191	...	...	1.5	29.8
31	21	Cashes Plc	29	...	...	1.7	15.4
58	19½	Chiltern Capital	57	...	...	...	...
26	20	Chrisco	25	...	...	...	...
384	228	Chubb Sec	348 †	- 2	...	1.9	21.6
116	90	Comarco	108	...	...	1.7	28.5
37½	6½	Corp Services	37	+ 1	...	...	...
21	20	Courts Unstng	20	...	...	2.2	17.2
112	93	Dart	43 †	- ½	3.3	2.9	19.0
146	108	Davis Service	136	...	...	4.6	16.3
88	68	EW Fairs	124	- ½	4.4	4.5	14.2
31	17	Gardiner	31	...	0.4	2.6	18.6
259	215	Hays	241	- 1	...	2.5	20.8
268	174	Hogg Robinson	249	- 1	...	3.6	17.2
218	94	Holmes Protecn	99	...	...	...	2.4
29	15	Horsh Whump	22	- 2	...	...	20.2
215	155	ISS B DKr	207½	...	...	1.5	29.0
657	475	Inchcape	530	...	...	3.8	14.3
875	668	Johnson Clean	868	...	...	3.7	16.9
6½	1½	Stanmix	2	...	...	...	...
1688	1080	Manpower	1106	...	...	...	...
63	40½	Michael Page	59	...	...	1.8	3.0
290	115	Pensana	115	...	...	...	8.7
6½	2	Prime Peoples	2½	...	...	...	...
14½	9½	Proudfoot Ala	9½	...	...	20.0	3.5
421	337	RCO	370	- 3	14.1	4.8	12.7
116	86	REA	98	...	2.0	2.6	...
48	43	Reed Executive	48	...	...	...	...
288	178	Reliance Secs	198	- 2	...	5.3	23.0
288	178	Rentokil	212	...	...	2.5	26.4
362	220	Rolfe & Nolan	358 †	+ 1	...	1.4	19.7
399	319	Salvesen (C)	352 †	+ 2½	...	3.1	22.4
39	26	Scot Pickfords	38	...	...	2.9	11.2
10	5	Select Appe	7½	...	...	...	...
1238	695	Serco Gp	1200	- 3	13.3	1.3	34.9
352	83	Sherard Comps	104	...	...	8.4	3.0
130	90	Stirchley	98	- 1	...	3.8	22.6
388	280	Warner Howrd	375	...	6.6	2.6	17.0
65	32	Welpac	58	...	...	3.8	...
28	14	Wilts Gp	25½	...	...	2.0	17.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

268	210	Allied Colloids	230	...	...	2.4	21.1
986	613	Amersham	986	+ 2	...	1.8	23.4
7	1¾	Anglo Utd	2	...	...	...	...
£113¾	£85	BASF DM	£112½	+½	...	5.9	...
£140½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£140½	+1½	...	6.0	20.9
178	118	Biagden	127	...	6.5	6.7	11.0
165	93	Brent Chems	118	...	...	7.5	10.8
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	365	...	...	...	...
29	5	Chem Gp	5½	...	...	22.2	15.3
188	126	Canning (W)	164	...	7.2	6.3	18.6
608	421	Cranodata	482	- 3	...	3.8	11.6
347	258	Croda	338	- 5	...	2.9	19.4
149½	119	Deeley	119	- 3	4.6	4.8	9.1
220	173	Elite & Everard	218	...	...	4.6	20.8
45	19½	Exm Colour	35	...	0.8	3.1	10.8
348	259	Halstead (J)	348	...	...	2.3	17.2
241	158	Hickson	170	+ 2	...	5.0	15.8
£118	£850	Hoechst	£114½	+3½	...	3.2	...
229	166	Holliday Chem	168	- 1	...	2.8	15.5
772	608	ICI	748	- 15	...	4.6	...
695	576	Laporte	695	- 2	19.0	3.6	19.2
230	181	Lvsch	193 †	+ ½	...	5.1	18.6
97½	35	NTH	44	...	...	...	...
2050	1462½	Norsk Hydro	1900	+25	...	1.5	22.0

ELECTRICITY

653	389	East Midlands	637	- 9	...	4.1	11.2
681	399	Eastern Elect	651	- 9	...	3.9	12.3
651	394	Hydro--Elect	635	- 9	...	3.9	12.5
980	626	London Elect	944	- 9	...	4.2	12.0
729	468	Manweb	724	- 2	...	3.6	10.4
845	624½	Midlands Elec	696	- 8	...	3.6	10.8
455½	373	National Power	439½	- 5½	...	3.1	10.9
740	540	Northern Elec	686	...	...	3.9	10.0
1238	908	Nthn Ireland	257	- 7	...	3.3	12.5
713	479	Norweb	701	- 6	20.8	3.7	10.8
909½	653	PowerGen	698	- 6	...	3.8	13.6
458	388	Scottish Power	436	- 6	...	3.6	10.5
723	436	Seebourd	711	- 2	...	3.6	9.2
720	499	Sth Wales	518	-11	...	4.2	10.7
868	626	Sth Western	680	- 3	...	3.8	10.5
683	406	Southern Elec	672	- 4	...	3.9	12.3
669	455	Yorkshire Elec	652	- 4	...	3.9	12.6

FINANCE, LAND

60½	50	Aitken Hume	54	- 1	1.0	2.3	11.5
139	67	BICC A	128	...	...	3.3	20.0
101	26	Baker Plc	68	...	...	1.5	...

DRAPERY, STORES

102	53	Alexon	66	+ 1	...	5.3	...
87	42	Amber Day	61	...	1.3	2.8	∞
373	257	Argos Plc	366	...	...	2.4	31.2
25	9½	Ashley Group	11	...	10.4	4.3	21.6
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	94	- 1	0.1	0.1	...
330	228	Asprey	306 †	- 1	5.2	2.1	19.9
154	94	Austin Reed	151	+ 1	...	2.1	...
155	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	148	...	...	2.1	14.9
121	94	Benetalls	110	...	...	1.9	21.2
278	132	Bettenware	148	+ 9	...	1.8	17.8
47	22	Blacks Leis	38 †	+ 1	2.2	7.4	...
227	133	Body Shop	214	+ 1½	...	1.0	27.6
16½	9½	Brown B Jackson	10	- ½	...	1.0	5.4
434	318	Brown (N)	423	...	...	2.2	24.8
87½	61½	Burton	62½	- ½	2.0	4.1	∞
195	126	Cannors	195	...	...	4.0	2.6
360	295	Church	334	...	12.5	4.7	29.7
183	97	Clinton Cards	153	...	4.3	3.6	18.5
275	212	Coats Viyella	267	- 2	...	3.5	30.9
112	78	Criscrvitken A	83	...	3.6	3.6	14.9
181	154	Cty Casuals	157	...	...	3.3	14.6
908	324	Courts Furnish	885	...	5.6	0.8	11.1
155	115	Crown Eyes	135 †	+ 3	...	6.9	9.2
130	89	Daisy Farm Ind	116	- 2	...	3.1	17.0
91½	51½	Dewhirst (J)	91½	+ ½	0.8	1.1	29.4
202	189	Dixons Grp	285	+ 2	...	2.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	8½	...	...	...	69.7
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	520	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
166	71	Essex Pass	150	...	...	2.9	24.0
273	203	Etam	220	...	7.0	3.6	22.1
608	499	Fine Art Dev	548	- 2½	13.0	2.4	17.8
70	26	First Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
680	498	Formtnaster	623	...	...	4.0	20.5
180	24	French Conn A	118	+ 2	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SE	66	...	...	4.0	...
78	23	Goldsmiths Gp	76	...	0.3	0.5	...
600	334	GUS	587	+ 7	...	2.5	18.0
40	23	Hampden Grps A	23	...	...	3.4	11.4
277	20	Hartstone	90	+ 5	...	...	...
30	20	Helene Pic	30	+ ½	2.0	8.4	14.2
99	88	Heritage A	88	...	...	...	...
79	35	Hntcysmckie A	66	...	...	4.2	...
161	93	Hepworth Vert	152	- 2	...	2.5	11.6
75½	49	Kingfisher	71	- 4	...	3.6	10.8
24	12½	Leslie Wise Gp	23	...	4.0	6.8	15.0
495	385	Liberty	545	...	7.3	1.7	44.2
325	241	Lloyds Chem	317	...	...	2.9	11.1
152	120	MFI	148	+ 1	...	3.4	11.6
457	311	Marks Spencer	446	+ 4	...	2.4	22.8
580	445	Menzies (John)	569	+ 3	...	2.4	16.1
352	312	Moss Bros	320	...	7.0	3.0	23.1
212	139½	Next	208	+ 2	3.5	2.1	34.8
41	15	Oliver (G)	38	...	...	...	...
202	197	Oriflame Int	198	...	...	1.9	18.8
86	116	Murray Enter	226	...	...	3.5	27.4
3209	2612½	NYNEX	2800	+12½	...	...	...
188	128	Neotronics	128	...	2.6	2.5	16.5
62	42	Newmark (L)	54	- 2	...	...	...
295	98	Norbtlan	260	+20	...	0.8	22.3
75	20	Northamber	55	+ 1	0.6	1.4	...
15½	5	Ocsvodes	8	...	...	...	...
320	198	Oxford Inst	295	...	4.6	2.0	20.2
81	48	P-E Intern't	73	...	...	...	...
81½	39	P & F	75	+ 4	1.5	3.4	20.2
85	53	Peek	78	- 1	3.4	5.4	20.4
227	115	Pegasus A	205	- 4	...	3.9	52.6
9000	7750	Philips Fin 4%	9750	...	...	...	...
1435½	725	-do- Lmp Inv	1367½	...	...	...	...
317	271	Phonelink A	317	...	...	...	...
280	171½	Pilco	280	...	...	1.8	23.5
270	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	270	...	...	1.9	22.6
63	48	Pleasurama	63	...	...	3.1	6.2
120	76	Pressac	103	...	...	2.9	11.2
188	81	Prism A	165	...	...	1.9	43.8
241	167	Racal Elec	171 †	+ 4½	4.2	3.1	10.2
70	40	Radamec	49	...	...	2.7	8.6
70	24	Radfrac	27	...	...	2.2	10.4
92	61	Real Time A	71	- 1	...	5.3	14.6
35	18	Rivas	25	...	...	...	31.7
367	252	Sage Gp	477	- 2	9.8	2.6	∞
222	122	Sanderson Elec	212	...	9.8	4.6	13.1
88	49	Scantronic	75 †	...	...	4.0	20.1
181	117	Scholes Grp	155	...	...	4.0	20.1
370	253	Semia Gp	304	- 3	2.9	1.2	34.7
42	26	Silverstones	40	...	...	2.5	...
54	37	Soundtracks	54	...	...	3.7	...
2675	1737½	TDK	2575	+40½	...	1.3	28.9
97	61	TDS Circuitex	91	...	...	...	...
190	80	Telemectric	144	...	0.8	0.7	23.7
1017	809	THORN EMI	952	- 5	...	2.5	12.4
152	99	Thorpe FW	130	- 1	...	2.5	15.4
575	372	Tomkins	570	+ 5	15	6.3	9.3
298	164	Unitech	256	- 2	...	3.0	60.4
11½	6	Verity	11	...	...	...	...
35	22½	Vitec A	34½	...	...	...	...
585	367	Vodafone	567	- 1	...	1.7	24.7
473	368	Volex	459 †	- 1	18.1	3.4	17.2
46	33	Western Selectn	39 †	- ½	0.2	1.6	...
288	223	Wholesale Figs	281	...	11.7	5.8	27.7

FOODS

565	489	AB Foods	539	...	...	3.5	11.0
77½	46½	ASDA Group	51½	- 1	1.6	3.9	12.3
320	170	Acatos & Hutch	310	...	1.6	3.9	12.5
88	55	Albert Fisher	64	...	3.7	7.3	∞
403	246	Argyll	398 †	+ 1	...	5.4	9.3
220	160	Banks (S C)	218	...	9.0	5.2	9.7
402	305	Barr (AG)	398	...	6.5	2.4	15.7
88	57	Bassett Coups	62	...	...	3.7	13.9
141	100	Berisford Intl	108	...	...	...	...
450	350	Booker	425	...	...	...	...
52	35	Bortbwick					

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Grofund Euro	196.50	206.80	...	...
Grofund Expt Bal	115.10	122.90	+ 5.90	1.22
Grofund Gilt	82.40	84.95	+ 0.15	4.45
Grofund Japan	160.90	169.40r	+ 2.20	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 553 234

General Acc	525.00	550.60	- 0.40	2.21
General Inc	473.00	503.20	- 0.30	2.21
Uk Growth Acc	357.20	380.10	- 0.70	2.38
UK Growth Inc	250.10	266.10	- 0.50	3.38
Higher Inc Acc	672.50	715.50	- 0.30	5.33
Higher Inc Inc	405.20	431.00	- 0.10	5.33
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	196.40	206.30	+ 0.10	5.53
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	99.85	105.40	...	5.53
Nth America	260.80	279.60	- 1.40	...
Far East	344.20	366.50	- 3.30	...
Europe	267.00	284.10	- 1.80	0.81
Brit Exempt	71.48	76.05t	- 0.26	2.49
Brit Fxd Mrkt Acc	102.00	108.20	- 0.20	4.12
Brit Fxd Mrkt Inc	77.51	82.46	- 0.11	4.12
Global Opps	82.95	88.31t	+ 0.41	...
Balanced Acc	54.22	57.69t	...	2.25
Balanced Inc	53.74	57.18t	...	2.25

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0145 777 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	140.30	148.70t	+ 0.50	5.38
High Inc Equity	166.60	177.20	+ 0.10	4.44
Worldwide Bond	277.50	290.00t	+ 0.70	3.62
Capital Growth				
American Growth	301.50	322.40	+ 0.10	.98
Asian Pacific	302.30	395.90	+ 2.80	.23
Assets & Earnings	254.30	270.50t	+ 0.20	2.01
Cumdiy & Energy	116.10	124.10	+ 0.20	.44
1992 Enterprise	91.03	97.35	+ 0.23	1.97
Euro Capital Inc	123.70	132.20	+ 0.60	.73
General	259.20	243.80	- 0.10	2.23
Japan	114.70	122.60	- 1.90	...
Masterrust	130.40	146.40	+ 0.60	1.27
Uk Growth Dist	127.30	135.40	- 0.90	2.11
US Emerging Cos	130.10	138.80	...	...
Income & Growth	368.60	413.40r	- 0.40	3.17
Ethical	70.66	75.17	+ 0.15	2.42
International	110.30	117.30	+ 0.50	.43
Dividend & Growth	62.80	66.80	+ 0.05	4.21
Global Gwth & Sec	64.22	68.31	+ 0.06	2.78

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1575.0	1645.0	...	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 388

Aberdeen Portfolio	62.03	63.23	+ 0.39	0.79
Amer Inc & Growth	45.05	47.69	+ 0.14	0.66
Cash	50.07	50.07r	+ 0.01	4.92
European	99.81	105.80	+ 0.52	...
European Income	96.60	102.54t	- 0.01	1.46
Exempt	999.00	1046.8	+ 2.80	3.65
Extra Income	52.59	57.20	+ 0.03	4.60
Far East Emg Ecn	117.50	126.90	- 0.14	0.51
Fixed Interest	24.29	25.93t	+ 0.03	7.12
High Inc Inc	168.00	179.40	+ 1.00	0.94
Japan	185.10	197.30	+ 0.80	...
Latin American	66.47	70.70	- 0.15	0.71
Pacific	74.79	80.10	+ 0.33	0.34
Property Share	72.42	77.31	+ 0.15	1.70
UK Emerging Cos	62.04	66.22	+ 0.04	1.88
Uk Growth	44.39	48.37	- 0.08	2.44
World Growth	74.76	79.70t	+ 0.14	0.69
Ethical	64.46	68.82t	- 0.04	2.58
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	55.58	55.58t	+ 0.05	7.35

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
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UK Equity Income	93.50	99.47	+ 0.01	3.37
UK Equity Growth	81.95	87.07	+ 0.01	2.71
European	65.38	69.55	+ 0.20	1.41
Nth American	66.47	70.93t	+ 0.38	1.03
Far Eastern	67.60	71.92t	+ 0.42	0.28
Money	64.96	64.96	+ 0.02	4.37
Fixed Interest	74.18	78.91	+ 0.06	5.91
Index Linked Gilt	69.07	74.12	+ 0.17	1.36

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
26 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

British Growth	67.78	72.11	+ 0.10	2.51
British Income	78.19	83.18	- 0.03	3.28
Select Portfolio	83.27	88.59	+ 0.33	...

AILLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
101 Kingly Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 955

Annty. Income	76.49	81.36	+ 0.13	2.01
Income Builder Inc	68.22	72.57	+ 0.03	2.80

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
EFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	245.30	262.20	+ 0.20	2.87
Capital	412.50	440.90	- 0.60	1.81
Balanced	690.90	738.40r	- 1.40	2.32
Accumulator	1295.0	1341.0	- 2.00	2.81
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.11	53.56	- 0.02	3.04
High Income	431.60	461.30	- 0.80	3.43
Equity Income	344.30	381.10		3.31
High Yield	265.40	284.10r		5.37
Govt Securities	35.82	37.81	+ 0.07	4.73
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	136.10	145.40	- 0.60	0.17
European Growth	32.46	34.47	- 0.04	0.44
International	154.40	164.70	- 0.50	0.26
Japan	168.40	201.10t	- 2.20	0.01
Pacific	414.20	442.70t	+ 7.50	0.22
Secs of America	427.50	454.70t	- 0.50	0.54
Worlde Asset Val	45.59	48.73	+ 0.13	0.29
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	536.40	575.50r	- 0.70	2.15
Com & Gilt	48.97	52.34	+ 0.12	3.65
Smaller Cos	166.70	178.20	+ 0.30	1.22
2nd Smaller Cos	156.20	169.10	+ 0.60	1.21
Recovery	137.70	147.20	+ 0.10	1.98
Met Min & Cdty	149.60	160.10r	- 1.80	0.84
Overs Earnings	345.90	369.70r	- 0.90	2.18
Technology	155.30	166.00	- 0.20	0.05
UK Special Sits	443.20	473.70	- 0.90	2.05

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Growth	134.40	143.00t	+ 0.20	2.04
Income	75.72	80.56	- 0.12	4.25
European	97.21	60.87t	- 0.10	0.90
Recovery	128.80	137.10	- 0.20	1.88

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Capital	74.19	78.92	+ 0.22	1.46
International	60.75	64.62		0.52

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031 222 4242

America	300.70	324.10r	- 2.10	
Bond	129.60	136.30	+ 0.10	5.79
Brit Smlr Cos	94.19	100.20	- 0.10	5.00
Com & Gen	61.71	65.46	- 0.02	5.31
Energy	427.30	455.30r	- 0.60	0.26
Europe	216.10	228.80r	+ 0.40	0.66
Euro Smlr Cos	94.94	100.60	+ 0.10	0.97
Income Gwth	341.10	364.00r	+ 0.20	4.22
Japan	306.90	325.90r	+ 2.30	
Pacific	119.50	127.10r	+ 0.50	0.64
Uk Smlr Cos	47.79	50.84	+ 0.14	0.94
Japan Fd	700.60	720.80	- 4.10	
Mined Fd	175.70	186.50	- 0.20	2.59

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
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Brit & Overs	292.50	307.90		1.15
Capital Gwth	116.50	122.60		2.21
Wwide Opps	147.00	307.40		0.46

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Balanced Trusts				
Pat Int Fd Inc	381.20	365.80t		3.71
European Bd Inc	101.00	104.60		7.14
Exempt	77.69	62.87t		3.91
Financial	75.62	80.68t		2.36
Gilt	460.40	499.80		2.54
General	275.50	294.70		2.51
Property	243.10	260.0t*		6.12
Trustee	169.00	202.10		2.30
Income Trusts				
Chnl Inc	100.90	100.80		4.93
Euro Income	119.40	157.80		4.11
Gilt & Fxd Int	63.29	65.41t		7.71
Income	547.30	585.40		3.94
Income Builder	67.41	71.75		4.62
Intl Income	65.82	73.22		2.83
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	120.20	128.30		2.56
Leisure	115.70	123.00		1.57
Recovery	408.40	436.80		2.61
Smlr Cos Inc	39.66	42.55		3.23
Special Sits	272.80	291.80		1.97
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	132.10	140.20r		0.22
Aust Acc	236.00	251.10		1.45
Aust Inc	147.70	157.10r		1.45
Euro Gwth Inc	135.70	143.90		0.44
Japan & Gen Inc	167.00	176.80r		
Japan Spec Sits	73.06	77.39		0.49
Unit Tech Inc	73.62	78.23		
Worldwide	168.40	178.70		0.40

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4AQ
081 658 6002

American Growth	99.06	105.10		0.10
Amer Smlr Cos	131.40	140.90	- 0.30	
Cash Trust	50.25	50.25r	+ 0.01	4.90
Convertibles	85.70	62.76	+ 0.23	5.60
Eastern	284.50	311.70	+ 1.90	1.60
Equity Income	93.51	99.47	+ 0.25	5.00
European Growth	282.50	300.20	+ 1.00	1.50
Europe	192.10	205.20r	+ 0.30	1.50
German Growth	75.51	80.27	+ 0.26	0.70
Global Bond	71.14	75.66	+ 0.10	5.30
Global Growth	129.60	135.20t	+ 0.50	
Japan Growth	196.30	210.60	+ 2.40	
Japan Sunrise	165.00	176.40	+ 1.50	
Korea Trust	64.34	66.86	+ 0.91	
Portfolio	134.30	143.40	+ 0.10	3.20
UK Growth	91.93	97.76	+ 0.18	2.80
Uk Smaller Cos	89.61	95.83	+ 0.09	1.60
Select Managers	74.67	79.86	+ 0.14	2.00

BRIEFINGS

Small firms 'responding defensively to recession'

Small businesses are adopting defensiveness, rather than a pro-active strategy, to cope with recession, according to a survey by Kingston and Brunel Universities. Many owners reduce prices and cut costs in preference to seeking new customers. Surviving owners have a "wait and see" attitude to the next 12 months, with only a quarter expecting to make a major investment in the business.

In their third survey since 1990, the researchers looked at 350 small firms in the service sector. By 1993, 35 per cent had ceased trading. Survival is sectoral. Garages and vehicle repairers did well and, like computer services, gained clients. Hardest hit were leisure and video hire. Advertising, marketing and design agencies also lost clients.

Plant hirers, employment agencies and garages found that late payment had worsened in the past year.

Firms were generally sceptical of the benefits of BS 5750 and the single market.

☐ At least 10 per cent fewer businesses will be formed this year than last, the National Westminster Bank Start-up Index forecasts. The estimate of 360,000 is based on the 270,000 that began trading in the first nine months of the year. This compares with 400,000 start-ups in 1992 and the peak 520,000 in 1990.

☐ Flotation of London Industrial on the stock market, raising probably £14 million for development, signals an increase in industrial, studio and office space for small businesses in the greater London area. The company has 27 estates in the capital, consisting of about 900 units on short leases with flexible arrangements suitable for smaller businesses. Alan Porter, chairman, says that expansion will be largely within the M25.

☐ A guide, *Starting a Business in Birmingham*, has been produced by Birmingham Venture, which runs the city TEC's new business programme. Details can be obtained on 021-454 6171.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

Dreaming of a green Christmas

By Rodney Hobson

PETER TRIEVNOR



François Hartwell wanted an environmentally friendly enterprise that did not involve a lot of risk capital

IT WILL be a green Christmas in Hampstead, north London. Live Christmas trees brought from Wales will be recycled at the end of the festivities.

The environmentally friendly Christmas tree business is the brainwave of two brothers, François and Rufus Hartwell.

François says: "We were sitting around one Christmas thinking about what we could do to set up an enterprise that did not involve a lot of risk capital and was environmentally friendly. A friend came up with the idea."

Trees supplied by a friend and by the Forestry Commission are delivered before Christmas to householders in London. On Twelfth Night the customers dump them on their doorsteps and the Hartwell brothers pick them up and take them back to Wales to be replanted.

Rufus, a builder, lives in Wales and arranges the supplies. François, a management consultant in London, finds the customers. A third brother, Alexander, a student, helps with transport.

François says: "Most Christmas trees are chopped off above football level. We keep the football and as long as the roots are kept moist the tree can be replanted.

"The main problem is not the trauma of replanting but the trauma of coming from the wet and windy hills of Wales to warm dry central heating and back again."

The main offerings are Norway Spruce and Scots Pine, two varieties that stand up well to the rigours of a family Christmas and tend to drop fewer needles. More species will be offered in future years.

To keep transport costs under control, customers are offered four possible delivery dates so that as many trees as possible can be brought from Wales in one journey. Although customers are given a leaflet explaining how to look after the tree, not all survive. One last year was already dead when it was retrieved from the customer. However, the Hartwell brothers reckon 70 per cent of their trees will enjoy their old age. Some will be used for more than one Christmas. Others that are stunted by the experience will be allowed early retirement.

With fairly modest publicity they managed to find 30 homes for Christmas trees last year. A more intensive leaflet drop around Hampstead has demonstrated that there is a far bigger market.

Hampstead was picked because of a high concentration of well-off families. The environmental Christmas tree costs at least £30 and prices range up to £75. The cost is about 50 per cent higher than buying a tree to be dumped in January.

However, the notion that a tree is not just for Christmas seems to have appealed to households across the economic board. François says: "People are more concerned with what happens to the tree than with the price."

The brothers plan to expand, but not too rapidly. They hope to be able to cover all London next year. They have started to grow their own trees at Llanddewi Brefi, in Dyfed, to meet future demand. It takes about four or five years for a tree to be sufficiently large to stand duty in a front room.

Enterprise Initiative lifespan is extended

By Derek Harris

LIFE of the Enterprise Initiative consultancy scheme under the aegis of the trade and industry department is to be further extended beyond next March, so small businesses will be able to secure this form of help until a new consultancy brokerage service is introduced early in 1995.

Pilot trials for the new service will start in January, said Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade. He said: "This will open up to public access the considerable wealth of data and project management experience which has been accumulated with UK business consultants for the Enterprise Initiative consultancy scheme."

How the new scheme will work will be set out in a prospectus, including guidelines, to be published in January.

Extra funding will ensure that another 10,000 small businesses will get consultancy help under the existing scheme and this is expected to be sufficient to carry aid through until the new system goes national.

More funding is also going into the developing chain of Business Link one-stop shops offering help and counselling to small businesses around the regions. The aim of Business Links is to bring together the efforts of local organisations from Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs) to chambers of commerce and private sector bodies.

Three Business Links are so far operating, in Birmingham, Leicester and Congleton, Cheshire. Eventually there will be about 200 in England with several more due to start up soon including south and east Cheshire, Hertfordshire and Tyneside.

Mr Heseltine has increased his small businesses budget by £8 million to £120 million, reflecting his belief that TECs have a strategic enterprise role in providing business support services as well as carrying through their training role under the guidance of the Department of Employment.

☐ Support organisations like TECs, enterprise agencies and Business Links will have to become much more customer-focused in future, says David Grayson, head of the business strategy group at Business in the Community (BITC). He backs the Business Links with their emphasis on small and medium-sized companies with the aspiration and potential to grow. Increasingly it will be a matter not of doing things for small businesses but empowering them to do things for themselves, he believes.



"I want massive profits"



Bradford: studying character

CBI is out to nurture the ingredients that bring growth

LENDING institutions may come under pressure to offer preferential interest rates to promising young businesses that can show at least adequate levels of management skill (Derek Harris writes).

This is one idea that will be explored during a drive by the Confederation of British Industry to bolster management of identifiably growth businesses. A 14-strong working party was set up last week to study issues involved.

Its chairman, Philip Clarke, managing director of Clamason Industries, a Midlands engineering company, said: "Preferential interest rates is one thought. Government funding for incentive consultancy is another. Management development and training are the lifeblood of any company."

Smaller businesses are seen as needing to maximise management skills. Financial management often needs strengthening, as do exporting skills.

Mr Clarke said: "We need specific measures which will encourage more companies to undertake management development... Once they start down that road, they will continue."

Another working party member is John Parsons, chairman of Time and Data Systems International, of Poole, and former chairman of the small firms committee of the British Overseas Trade Board.

The CBI wants to discover how to increase the type of firm that grows. Mr Parsons draws a distinction between two types of smaller businesses. One is the "lifestyle" enterprise run primarily for the benefit of the owner manager and usually with few pretensions of seeking substantial growth. What the CBI working party will concentrate on is the standard growth business in which the aim is consistent expansion to the point where the company's value can be realised by stock market flotation or a trade sale.

Mr Parsons said: "It is these growth companies which will have an economic impact by uplifting activity and which could then go on to create jobs."

Successful firms tend to have characteristics including the right management culture, commitment and abilities. Mr Parsons said: "It seems ironic that the only qualified person required by law in a UK company is the company secretary. It ought to go further than that: an engineering business, for instance, should have at least one professional engineer on the staff."

Banks are paying more attention to assessing management expertise when considering how far to back a business according to another member of the working party, Jane Bradford, who is head of small business services at National Westminster Bank.

She said: "If we think management skills are deficient in some way, we shall suggest where they can go for help. The character and business skill of those in a firm is for us still top of the check list."

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هكذا من الأصل



OPERA page 30
Is this man the next Pavarotti? Roberto Alagna steals the show as Roméo in Toulouse

ARTS

THEATRE page 31
Northern Broadsides puts the case for Shakespeare spoken in dialect



Don't take the Serpentine for a ride

Expansive plans by a uniquely pleasant art gallery are threatened by a heritage ministry that seems to put horses first. An angry Richard Cork bolts the stable door



Like fragments of an archaeological discovery, the cast-iron plates of Richard Wentworth's sculpture *Meal* protrude from the lawn facing the Serpentine Gallery

Everyone who cares about the survival of contemporary art in Britain will be shocked by the sinister machinations of Iain Sproat, the junior minister at the National Heritage Department. Until now, the Serpentine Gallery, in Kensington Gardens, west London, has enjoyed a rent-free existence. But Sproat is insisting that it should pay an annual levy of £60,000, index-linked to soar to £90,000 in five years. Such a Draconian imposition would threaten the gallery's very existence, but Sproat is implacable. He wants, unbelievably, to raze it to the ground and put in horse-riding facilities.

This disgraceful remark, which flouts the "arm's-length" policy separating government from the arts it subsidises, could hardly have been aimed at a more inappropriate target. Ever since its transformation from a genteel tea-house in 1970, the Serpentine has been cherished as a uniquely pleasurable showcase for art. Most London galleries inhabit wholly urban settings, and display their exhibits in windowless rooms where nature cannot be glimpsed. Even at the Hayward on the South Bank, where extensive views are provided upstairs, prospects of the Thames are largely blocked by forbidding concrete hulks. But the Serpentine rejoices in its parkland location, offering limpid panoramas of the surrounding landscape at every turn. Walking past trees, lawns and water to reach the gallery removes us from the metropolitan frenzy, quickens the senses and induces contemplation. No wonder the artists who show there find it such a refreshing experience.

> No wonder the artists who show there find it such a refreshing experience

The serenity, though, is deceptive. Soon after she became the Serpentine's director in 1991, Julia Peyton-Jones realised that repairs were a pressing priority. The building had not been touched since it opened as a gallery, and the roof in particular needed urgent attention. She decided to act, spurred on by her awareness that renovation ought also to improve facilities for visitors.

The Serpentine's delectable position in a royal park means that the character of J.G. West's original 1934 design must be preserved. But John Miller and Partners, architect of the Whitechapel Art Gallery's successful renewal and the recently opened suite of rooms at the National Portrait Gallery, has produced a plan that combines conservation with an exciting expansion of the interior.

If their proposals are implemented, three interior staircases will be removed. Space is thereby made available for an enlarged bookshop and a café opening on to the lawn. For the first time in a quarter of a century, tea will once again be served. So will food, turning the gallery into a still more congenial place for visitors.

At the moment, the Serpentine closes whenever a new show is being installed. But the renovation will ensure that it stays open all the year round. Miller wants to transfer the entrance from the north to the south side, enabling him to provide public access to the café and bookshop when the exhibition spaces are closed. He will also transform the unsatisfactory South Gallery, at present riddled with doorways, into a far more coherent and appealing room.

Since the enterprising Peyton-Jones is determined to maintain the Serpentine as a venue for major international artists, she wants the renovation to improve the gallery's security and environmental controls. Important loans can only be secured nowadays if owners are satisfied that their works will be displayed, lit and guarded to the most stringent standards. The new plan will produce a gallery fully capable of satisfying the conditions demanded by the National Security Adviser, and the north portico would be glazed in to give the Serpentine a proper education studio for its admirable teaching programme for students, adults and school children.

Peyton-Jones attaches enormous importance to the gallery's educational role. "Talks and classes provide a context for people who may well come in by chance and know nothing about the art on display," she says. "A lot of them find that, once they begin to explore the work in depth, it can be a revelation."

She harbours no illusions about the latent hostility towards modern art in Britain, fanned at every opportunity by the tabloid press. "The country expects to find contemporary work difficult, and sometimes reporters publish sensationalist stories without even bothering to see the exhibitions."

As Sproat clearly needs reminding, the Serpentine already struggles to meet a formidable fund-raising challenge. Every year Peyton-Jones and Andrea Schlieker, her deputy, with the help of their trustees' chairman Lord Gowrie, have to find about £250,000 to match the grants given by the Arts Council and Westminster. Moreover, the renovation appeal, which already has promises of £630,000, must reach its substantial £1.8 million target if construction work is to begin on schedule at the end of 1995.

It is a formidable aim at a time when the economy is still striving to emerge from recession. But Peyton-Jones's resolve should not be underestimated. The 41-year-old former exhibition organiser at the Hayward raised £120,000 at a Serpentine gala dinner, attended by the Princess of Wales, last summer. That event, sponsored by *Vanity Fair* magazine, exposed its royal guest to a full range of the gallery's involvement with contemporary work. Artists who have shown there, from Howard Hodgkin and Paula Rego to Rachel Whiteread and Damien Hirst, were all represented in a survey called "Here and Now". Its title signalled the Serpentine's primary commitment to work by living artists, often of an intensely controversial kind. But the princess did not even flinch when she saw Hirst's exhibit.

In this respect, as in others, her interests differ markedly from the Prince of Wales's. He could not be expected to warm to the gallery's current exhibition, a quirky and stimulating show by Richard Wentworth. Like other leading British sculptors of his generation, he often takes his cue from everyday objects. But Wentworth's eye for bizarre juxtapositions and disquieting images makes him a singular artist. At its simplest and most arresting, his interest in vertiginous propositions takes the form of the oddly titled *Lips and Fingertips*. High up in one room, a cornucopia of plates, bowls and saucers is ranged along a sloping glass shelf. They look precarious; and even when we have noticed that the crockery is lodged in discreet grooves, the ensemble still seems doomed to plummet and crash. But it possesses a surprising visual appeal as well, and when Wentworth robs a walking stick of its function by letting it dangle far above our heads in another gallery, he again finds an unexpected poise in a familiar object.

Bent on looking at ordinary things as if he had no idea of their conventional use, Wentworth invites us to discover poetry even in the most banal material. Nothing could be more quotidian than the steel office desk in *Balcone*. But the garden tools installed in the far edge of the desk, with a neatness that belies the provocative mystery of their presence, have a transforming effect. These hoes, rakes, brooms and shovels seem to insist that "real" labour, tough and manual, makes office work appear anaemic. The implements, however, all look trapped by the drilled holes which keep them in place. And they eventually become subservient to the priorities symbolised by the bureaucratic desk.

The theme of confinement grows more oppressive in the East Gallery. Steel cages occupy most of the space, ranged across the floor in apparently random profusion. Most of them contain an object — a bell, mirror or ball of twine — but the mesh prevents us from seeing them clearly. The cages generate frustration, and appear after a while to be drifting like jettisoned cargo on an open sea.

Wentworth is preoccupied with images of bewilderment and futility. *Meal*, installed in the garden outside the Serpentine, consists of cast-iron plates lying partially buried in the grass. Their rust-coloured fragments project from the turf, tantalising us with hints of an archaeological discovery and suggesting that disaster engulfed the people who once dined off them.

Always alive to the absurdity of human aspirations, Wentworth names a powerful indoor sculpture *Mercator* after the inventor of a map-making device. But the flamboyantly curving corrugated iron sheets resist any attempt to see them as parts of a globe.

Like so many artists before him, Wentworth is seen at his best in this lucid survey. And it would be a tragedy if his intimations of catastrophe were fulfilled by the manoeuvrings of a politician who should, by rights, do his utmost to protect the Serpentine, not threaten it with destruction.

● *Richard Wentworth, sponsored by Principles, at the Serpentine (071-402 6075) until January 3*

A major musical discovery gives clues to a great mind in torment

Haydn's long-lost sonatas will soon be heard again



DENZIL McNEELANCE

H.C. Robbins Landon holds copies of some of the six piano sonatas he has verified as being by Haydn

It has been a good year for musicological discoveries. First, a *Messe solennelle* by Berlioz, thought to have been destroyed by the composer, turns up in an organ loft in Antwerp. Then, a whole book of pieces in Purcell's own hand, including a group previously unknown, surfaces in an antiquarian dealer's possession in Devon. Finally, to crown the year, we have a sensational Haydn discovery: no fewer than six "new" piano sonatas. That they had been written was known, but only a few bars of each had survived.

Dating probably from 1766-69, the sonatas were previously known only from their incipits (introductory bars) in the catalogue kept by Haydn himself: the so-called Entwurf-Katalog. What has materialised is a manuscript copy made — as far as can be deduced from the watermark of the paper and the calligraphy — in Italy in about 1805. The copy belonged once to a bishop (as can be seen from his stamp on the cover) before becoming part of a private collection.

An octogenarian woman in Münster, Westphalia (Germany), finally showed the collection to a flautist and teacher named Winfried Michel. He noticed the group of sonatas with Haydn's name appended and alerted the Austrian pianist Paul Badura-Skoda and his equally distinguished musicologist wife, Eva. They immediately made the connection with the group of lost sonatas from Haydn's catalogue, known as Hoboken XVI:2a-g (one of the seven is still missing).

The Badura-Skodas were in no doubt about their authenticity. However, they called in the leading Haydn authority, H.C. Robbins Landon, to provide further verification and, subsequently, to broadcast the discovery. Professor Landon will announce the find to the musical world this morning at a press conference organised by the *BBC Music Magazine*, whose January issue will contain an article by him on the works.

The manuscripts remain in the possession of the woman in Westphalia, although Michel has secured the right to publish them in April. Until then, they cannot be performed in public, but Paul Badura-Skoda will give a private performance at Harvard University on February 12. Radio 3 may broadcast the work later in the year.

The find is exciting for several reasons. First, the sonatas were written at a time when Haydn was in a creative ferment: these were the years of the first stirrings in his music of *Sturm und Drang* ("Storm and Stress") — that troubled, proto-Romantic movement in the arts, most familiar from the passionate, minor-mode symphonies of Haydn such as "La passione" (No 49). Secondly, they are clearly intended for the fortepiano (the forerunner of the modern pianoforte) rather than the harpsichord, and are thus among Haydn's earliest works for that instrument.

Eva Badura-Skoda has recently discovered that the fortepiano was known in Vienna as early as 1725; in research shortly to be published, she cites an advertisement in the *Wienerisches Diarium* that year for a "Hammer-flügel" or fortepiano. The dramatic contrasts of "forte" and "piano", practicable only on the new instrument, together with pregnant pauses and surprise modulations, all increase the fascinatingly subjective — often anguished — tone of the rediscovered sonatas.

Thirdly, the influence of C.P.E. Bach, often contested, is clarified in these works. Although Haydn himself acknowledged his debt to the widely respected keyboard player and theorist, it was not always easy to point to specific passages to make the case.

From the new sonatas, however, we can see that it was precisely Bach's wilful gestures, startling modulations and abrupt alternations of mood that stimulated Haydn, at this pivotal point in his creative maturity, to try some bold experiments. One of the sonatas, for example, is in the highly unusual key of B. It is, furthermore, in only two movements rather than the conventional three or four. And the second-movement Larghetto, marked (uniquely for Haydn) "sostenuto e triste", ends with doleful, sighing appoggiaturas: a dying fall rarely encountered anywhere else in sonatas of the period.

What these sonatas show, then, is how Haydn arrived at the brooding, tempestuous style of the well-known C Minor Sonata of 1771, previously regarded as an isolated example of *Sturm und Drang* among his piano sonatas.

As Landon puts it in his magazine article, the rediscovered sonatas "clarify in a peculiarly striking way Haydn's search for a new musical language of strength and beauty which was to emerge as the beginning of the Viennese Classical style: for many, the culmination of music in the Western world".

BARRY MILLINGTON

Grave tidings

AN EFFIGY of Queen Victoria's cousin that narrowly escaped auction at Sotheby's four years ago has been sold, despite objections from the Victorian Society.

Ever since her death in the 1880s, the tomb of Victoire, Duchess of Nemour, had remained in St Charles Borromeo in Weybridge, Surrey, once the church of the French royal family in exile. In 1989, however, this sleeping beauty in marble was taken to Bond Street, only for the sale to be cancelled when the society said no permission had been sought for its removal.

This time, however, the vendors had done their homework. The tomb was not a fixture and could therefore legally be removed, said Glenn Dearlove, the vendors' agent. Although the society claimed that title rested with the subject's descendant, the Comte de Paris, Dearlove insisted the Catholic church was the owner.

The sale was well worth the wait, for whereas in 1989 Sotheby's estimated the sculpture at £15,000, last week it fetched £78,500. And the story had a happy ending: the new owner is the Musée d'Orsay, France's national museum of 19th-century art.

● ROBBED of their heritage a century ago, North America's Indians now have a chance to exact their revenge. According to the recently passed "Native American Graves and Protection Act", burial relics must be returned to the descendants of their original owners by November 16, 1995. In the meantime, museums had until now to inform the estimated 759 Indian groups of other artefacts in their collections.

The Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, which houses 200,000 objects, has been particularly busy. So far it has returned a sacred sundance wheel to the Northern Arapaho tribe and human remains to the Blackfoot tribes of Montana.

Hunch pays off

THERE are lots of prizes for artists, but there is only one for art dealers. The Crowley Colosso prize rewards whoever makes the best art market discovery of the past 12 months with a sculpture of a bronze horse. This year's winner is Clovis Whitfield, a Bond Street dealer who followed an instinct that a painting attributed to the "Circle of Giovanni Serodine" in a 1988 auction was in fact something far more important. Now he has managed to prove that the painting, of four heads, is a preparatory study for the famous altarpiece by the Italian Baroque master Giovanni Lanfranco in St Peter's, Rome.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

LONDON

CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA: Seasonal festivities are reaching fever pitch this week, including a performance tonight of Handel's mighty *Messiah*. Richard Hickox conducts, with Janice Watson, Michael Chance, Nigel Robson and Michael George. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MERRY WIVES A great week for enthusiasts of the Bard. Barry Rutter brings his Northern Broadsides company — "launched as a vehicle for the Northern Voice" — down south for a rumbustious version of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. See feature, p 31. **Lyric**, King Street, Hammersmith W6 (081-741 2311). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Dec 17, until Jan 15.

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA. The national tour of David Thacker's effervescent RSC production (with music by Gershwin and Cole Porter) opens tonight, for one month only. Catch it if you can. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: The multi-talented jazz/classical pianist Wayne Marshall teams up with the exciting American clarinettist Richard Stoltzman and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group for a special evening of music by Gershwin, Bernstein, Poulenc, Steve Reich and Takemitsu. **Adrian Boult Hall**, Birmingham Conservatoire, (021-236 2392/3699). Tonight, 7.30pm.

BLACKPOOL: Christopher Gable's unorthodox version of *Cinderella* for the **Northern Ballet Theatre** resumes its winter tour. Jayne Regan throws herself compellingly into the marathon title role (tonight and Thurs evening) while William Walker is the epitome of the handsome, elegant prince. The costumes include ravishing 1920s-influenced dresses. **Grand Theatre**, Church Street (0253 26372). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs 2pm and Sat 2.30pm.

CHICHESTER: The Moscow City Ballet continues its Tchaikovsky celebration with all three full-length ballets: The Sleeping Beauty with Evgenia Vorobieva, hailed as the epitome of the traditional fairy tale princess; *Swan Lake*, again with Vorobieva and Natalia Yakovleva as Odette/Odile; and *The Nutcracker* with the young ex-Bolshoi star Svetlana Filippova as Clara. **Festival Theatre**, Oaklands Park (0243 781312). Performances to this weekend: evenings, 7.30pm, mats Sat and Sun, 2.30pm. Today until Jan 8.

LEICESTER. A man is unwillingly led back to his dark and forgotten past in *The Thirst*, Gavin Robertson's eerie time-warp vampire tale. **Haymarket Studio**, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 3pm (except Jan 1). Until Jan 15.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The London Group 80th Birthday Celebration (071-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Damon of Painting: Kawanabe Kyosai (071-638 1555) . . . **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) . . . **Tate:** Writing on the Wall: women artists; Ben Nicholson; Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) . . . **Victoria & Albert:** Gates of Mystery: Russian Icons, 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500).

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **ANGELS IN AMERICA:** Religion, sex, Aids, corrupt politics: a vision of America at the edge of disaster. Tony Kushner's award-winning *Millenium Approaches* is joined by its sequel *Perestroika*. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). *Millenium*: Tonight, 7pm and tomorrow, 1pm. *Perestroika*: Tomorrow and Wed, 7pm.

□ **THE BFG:** Roald Dahl's Big Friendly Giant makes his now annual seasonally festive call on London. **Albery**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon 7pm; Tue-Fri, 2pm and 7pm, Sat 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm.

◪ **CAROUSEL.** Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein has the familiar mixture of the perceptive and the maudlin. **Shaftesbury**, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 165mins.

□ **FOREVER PLAID:** Genial and wittily performed homage to the four-part harmony groups of the 1950s. **Apollo**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat 8.30pm; mats Fri, Sat, 6pm.

□ **LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION:** John Waters stars in his own musical tribute to John Lennon, and comes remarkably close to conveying his mysterious, if chaotic, charm. **Criterion**, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and 9pm.

◪ **MEDEA.** Diana Rigg returns to the West End in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge. Directed by Jonathan Kent. **Wyndham's**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats, Sat 5.30pm.

◪ **MR AND MRS NOBODY:** First night of previews for Patricia Routledge and Clive Swift, keeping up appearances in Keith Waterhouse's adaptation of *Diary of a Nobody* and his own *Diary of Mrs Pooter*. **Greenwich**, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Dec 17, 7pm. Until Jan 15.

◪ **OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university. Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Harold Pinter's production of David Mamet's play. **Duke of York's**, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

◪ **ONE MAN:** Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's *Tell-tale Heart*; *Actor*; and *Dog*, his hilarious, chilling view of life as seen by a lager lout's rottweiler. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

◪ **PIAF:** Peter Hall directs Elaine Paige in Pam Gems' portrait of the great French Chanteuse. **Piccadilly**, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (without Paige) and Sat 3pm.

□ **PRESENT LAUGHTER:** Tom Conti is seriously off-target in the Noël Coward role which the author himself described as "a mixture of self-exposure and self-celebration". Final week. **Globe**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5085). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm.

□ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs. **Savoy**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes and David Essex star in Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy. **Queens**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **VITA AND VIRGINIA:** Eileen Atkins' play based on Virginia Woolf's crush on Vita Sackville-West, with herself and Penelope Wilton. **Ambassadors**, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, and Sat, Sun, 3.30pm. Last week of performances.

◪ **WILDEST DREAMS:** Opening night for Alan Ayckbourn at the RSC: a happy band of fantasy-game addicts get a scarier time than they bargained for. With Barry McCarthy, Brenda Blethyn. **The Pit**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . □ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . . ◪ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . □ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 9845) . . . □ **Hot Stuff:** Cambridge (071-494 5040) . . . ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) . . . □ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . ◪ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (PG): A new baby causes chaos in America's most macabre household. Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston, director, Barry Sonnenfeld. **Empire** (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332).

AMERICAN HEART (15): Father and son hit the Seattle streets. Well-meaning social drama from director Martin Bell; with Jeff Bridges and Edward Furlong. **Odeon Haymarket** (0426 915353).

THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF TOM THUMB (12): Dreary, unpleasant pixilated fantasy from the bolexbrothers animation studio in Bristol. Director, Dave Borthwick. **ICA** ◪ (071-930 3647).

TOKYO STORY (U): Yasujiro Ozu's wonderful, tender classic of 1953 about an ageing couple's family visit. Part of a two-week season of Ozu films. **Renoir** (071-837 8402).

CURRENT

◆ **ALADDIN (U):** Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun. **Barbican** ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914096) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332).

◆ **DEMOLITION MAN (15):** Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in 21st century L.A. Overblown action romp with satirical touches from director Marco Brambilla. **MGMs: Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343).

THE HAWK (15): Is Helen Mirren's husband Lancashire's serial killer? Modest but powerful domestic thriller, from Peter Ransley's novel. David Hayman directs. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343).

IP5 (15): Yves Montand teaches two urban louts the wonders of nature and love. Highly watchable, stylised twaddle from Jean-Jacques Beineix. **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Chelsea Cinema** (071-351 3742).

◆ **THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE (12):** Scarred recluse tutors a young outcast (Nick Stahl). Queasy drama with something to say from director-star Mel Gibson. **Barbican** ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914096) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332).

MR WONDERFUL (12): Electrical worker Mat Dillon tries to find his ex-wife a new man. Disarming candyfloss from director Anthony Minghella; with Annabella Sciorra. **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914096).

NAKED (18): Mike Leigh's excellent, uncomfortable Cannes prizewinner about London's lost souls, with David Thewlis as the amoral drifter who has the pavements. With Lesley Sharpe. **MGMs: Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148).

◆ **THE PIANO (15):** Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel. **Gate** ◪ (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-839 0631) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (071-435 3366) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332).

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OPERA: A preview of the Gounod staging that will come to Covent Garden next autumn

Night with the next great tenor

ROBERTO Alagna is the man most widely tipped to take over the title of top tenor once the Great Triumvirate of Carreras, Domingo and Pavarotti decide to turn to cultivating their garden, their pupils or their conducting. He will have done his claims no harm at all with his Roméo at Toulouse in a production which comes, together with Alagna, to Covent Garden next October. This will be the first time Gounod's work has been heard at the Royal Opera since the 1930s.

Alagna looks a Roméo, with his mop of wavy chestnut hair and cherubic cheeks. But it is the voice which matters. This has put on some weight since Covent Garden heard him for the first (and last) time as Rodolfo a year and a half ago. His tenor now has a clarion sheen, which recalls Franco Corelli, a famous Roméo in his day.

Alagna used it a bit too forcefully in Roméo's "Balcony" aria, where he calls on Juliette to arise like the sun to her window. In a small house such as Toulouse, with a resonant acoustic, such force is not required. But it is indication of Alagna's readiness to give his all in performance.

Fortunately his ability to mould a soft and gentle line, which won him much praise for his Scala *Traviata* under Muti, remains unimpaired. The Act IV duet, in which Roméo and Juliette echo each other's couplets ("Non, ce n'est pas le jour"), was full of caressing notes: Gounod at his most voluptuous and Alagna at his tenderest. He features strongly in Covent Garden's planned Verdi festival starting in 1995, where he is expected in *Traviata*, conducted by Solti, and *Don Carlos*.

Roméo et Juliette
Théâtre du Capitole, Toulouse

Roméo et Juliette has been accurately called a love duet with interruptions. Gounod's opera is virtually a two-singer affair and Toulouse's Juliette, Leontina Vaduva (who also comes to London next October) is close to matching Alagna's quality. She has a pretty, if conventional, waltz song at the start, a late thought by the composer, but as the opera progresses Juliette's role becomes much meatier. Vaduva piped out the joys of adolescence in "Je veux vivre" but was really waiting get her teeth — and throat — into the substantial Act IV *scena* where Juliette ponders long over whether or not to down Friar Lawrence's draught.

Nicolas Joël's production rightly allowed Juliette the whole of this scene and most of the short one following, where she collapses on her way to the altar. His staging is singer-friendly, allowing his stars to attain the closest possible rapport with audience, but generally unimaginative. The rival Capulets and Montagus, blocked off on either side of the stage, could just as well be the opposing forces of Manrico and the Count di Luna.

Carlo Tommasi's sets, especially for the opening acts, are likely to look lost on the Covent Garden stage as they stand. They begin by painting Verona in a kind of Warrington grey and lack stature: Juliette's balcony is knee-high to a grasshopper and Roméo later makes his dawn escape through what appears to be a corridor. More colour arrives as the opera progresses and the costumes are admirable.

Toulouse fields some old stalwarts among the cast, including Pierre Thau (Friar Lawrence), Isabel Garcisanz (Gertrude) and, best of all, Michel Trempont (Capulet). Michel Plasson's command of this score is probably unrivalled at the moment.

JOHN HIGGINS

GILLES BOUQUILLON



Star-cross'd lovers: Roberto Alagna and Leontina Vaduva in Toulouse

CONCERTS: The climax of the Messiaen commemoration; and a night of British music

Universal message

THE Messiaen commemoration at the Barbican came to an elevated close on Friday night with a performance of *Des Canyons aux étoiles* . . . by the **London Sinfonietta** under **Elgar Howarth**. To say that *Des Canyons* is an extraordinary, unique work is a truism, but one that applies equally to a number of large-scale Messiaen compositions. *Des Canyons* represents a monumental, transcendental journey: from the awe-inspiring canyons of Utah we are taken on a spiritual quest, with the inevitable ornithological accompaniments, to the celestial city.

By dispensing with an interval, the Sinfonietta's performance gave us an unbroken two-hour architectural span that did complete justice to the composer's ambitious conception. The bird calls often fall to the solo pianist, and here Paul Crossley brought an aptly hard-edged tone to bear, with especially volatile flashes of bravura for the sardonic cry of the mockingbird.

Des Canyons aux étoiles . . .
Barbican

The sensation of vast galactic spaces was evoked brilliantly by the horn player Michael Thompson, who was able to turn the technical tricks required in "Interstellar call" to expressive use. Trumpeter John Wallace made unexpected use of his mouthpiece to produce the screeching effects of "Cedar Breaks and the gift of awe", while James Holland and Charles Fullbrook seized their opportunities on xylorimba and glockenspiel respectively.

Howarth marshalled his forces in such a way that he was able to produce an earsplitting crescendo at the end of the second part. The conclusion of the whole work, however, calls for something quite different, and here the vision of paradise was projected with long-sustained string chords whose intensity seemed to burn ever more brightly the longer they were held.

In an early evening concert in St Giles, Cripplegate, the American soprano **Lucy Shelton**, accompanied by **John Constable**, gave a compelling, deeply-felt performance of *Harawi: Song of Love and Death* — the first panel of Messiaen's *Tristan*-inspired triptych.

From the ecstatically soaring lines of "L'escalier redit" to the fiercely onomatopoeic, incantatory cries of "Doundou tchil", Shelton had the measure of this piece. So, too, did Constable: the crashing chords at the end of "Adieu" were truly apocalyptic.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Festivity and fantasy

FIRST, allow me to be a little pedantic. Confirmed and accomplished Elgarian he may be, but when Andrew Davis conducted the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Elgar's Introduction and Allegro at the beginning of this concert he perpetrated a strangely un-Elgarian practice.

Convention these days has it that the first and second violins sit next to each other. But this convention is in fact a relatively recently established one, and certainly postdates Elgar. We all raised our eyebrows in doubt when Hogwood first placed the violins opposite each other in Mozart, but the realisation soon dawned that this was how Mozart wrote his music. That was also how Elgar wrote this piece, and had Davis done as Elgar did in this lovingly shaped reading the vigorous interplay between the top two lines would have sounded even more dynamic.

BBCSO/Davis
Festival Hall

The playing was involved enough to suggest that the musicians were collectively on song and rather looking forward to an evening's canter through Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and Holst's *The Planets*. And so it proved. The *Fantasia*, in which Thomas Allen sturdily sang the solo part and the BBC Symphony Chorus provided the equally sure massed vocal contributions, is an odd creature; it begins so beautifully, with that lovely folk tune set to the words "This is the truth sent from above" exquisitely arranged. But as soon as jollity usurps spirituality in "Come all you worthy gentlemen" the pieces become all lanterns, dimpled glass and sledges; in a word, kitsch. Yet, as the programme note pointed out, the tunes upon which Vaughan Williams fantasises were not well known in 1912, when the work was first given. Impressions then must have been very different.

So with Holst's cosmic suite in 1918. Only since the flourishing of the film industry and its music has it been possible, for instance, to point an accusing finger at the martial fanfares that break up the menace in "Mars" with wild-west charges. They inevitably sound a touch obvious now, but not then. Despite such moments, and despite the feeling that there are too many awesome, majestic climaxes reached by similar routes, Davis's steady, clear reading reminded us of just how expressive and innovative the harmonies and orchestral colourings in this marvellous piece really are, facts that did not speak to me when I last wrote, rather negatively, about it.

Sometimes the playing here was not ideally crisp — "Mercury" was a slightly hair-raising scamper and "Venus" suffered from marginally imperfect woodwind tuning. But the musicians' empathy with Holst's vivid imagination was unfailing, and the performance was crowned magically in "Neptune" by the singing of the Chorus's ladies — perfectly tuned — fading into the ether from somewhere on high.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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THEATRE: Northern Broadsides takes a swipe at Received Pronunciation; plus a look at three new shows

The Bard as spoken up North

Andy Lavender on the Yorkshireman who formed his own company to get his voice heard in Shakespeare's most-prized roles

When Northern Broadsides brought its touring production of Shakespeare's *Richard III* to London last year, the acclaim was not unanimous. Barrie Rutter, the company's artistic director, has a gleam in his eye as he recalls the response of one London newspaper: "It described the production as 'Northern Comic Relief' and said 'Go back North where you belong'."

Such metropolitan meanness was uncharacteristic. The company was praised for its low-budget inventions and high-calibre ensemble playing, and for reinvigorating Shakespeare by rendering his play in Northern voice. A notable debut had been made.

Rutter set up Northern Broadsides after performing in Tony Harrison's play *The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus* (which premiered, mark you, at Salt's Mill in Bradford before its success at the National Theatre in London). "I knew that I wanted to do more of this work," he says. "My own voice on the classical form, in non-velvet spaces." He uses the last term more than once. It implies unorthodox theatre venues and a conscious populism.

Public recognition has come quickly to a company so young. Northern Broadsides has just returned from an Indian tour supported by the British Council, and its production of *The Merry Wives* opens tonight at the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith. Plans for next year include productions of *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Twelfth Night*. Rutter is not solely preoccupied with the Bard. He has a Yorkshire version of Kleist's *The Broken Jug*, commissioned from Blake Morrison.

When we met, Rutter was sporting the company's sweatshirt, emblazened with the head of a mean-eyed tusky beast. This, it turns out, is the white boar at the centre of Richard III's Yorkist crest. But isn't Richard a nasty piece of work? And isn't his emblem somewhat double-edged? Rutter agrees that the ethos of his company is in effect a critique of certain ideas about culture. "If there's one thing that keeps me going it's our education minister saying that Shakespeare will be taught in standard English," he says. "What on earth does he mean? Shakespeare certainly doesn't write in standard English — is he going to censor him?"

His impatience at cultural imperialism finds other targets, notably institutions which in Rutter's view promote Received Pronunciation, the blithe cadences of the South of England. Rutter has worked for London's premier subsidised companies, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre, but retains a critical distance. "You can go to the RSC and see all those bloody RP-speakers: and it's dead," he insists. He laments the fact that, as a Yorkshireman, he is "kept in the basement of Shakespeare and only given the comic bits. I have a slow-burning revenge against the people who have told me I can never play kings because I don't have RP."

The boot is on the other foot now. Not only did Rutter play King Richard last year (in defiantly Northern voice), but his company uses only Northern performers. The company cherishes a Yorkshire sensibility and, more to the point, savours the special properties of the area's speech patterns. "The northern languages have short vowels and hard, flinty, percussive consonants," Rutter explains. "I've been taught by people like Tony Harrison to celebrate that fact rather than apologise for it. And I want like-minded performers and colleagues around me so that the coherent voice style says something about it."

It would be a mistake, however, to assume that Northern Broadsides is simply a standard-bearer for the top end of England. Its work represents a return to the kind of vibrant, performer-centred theatre that has largely withered over the past decade. "If I was given a bigger budget for a production I'd give it to the actors," Rutter claims. "I found in the two shows I've done so far that you can create enough magic with £2,000 — that's every costume, every prop, every bit of furniture.

"I can't bear this frippery-whimsey Shakespeare. In *The Merry Wives*, the costumes are very simple and emblematic. There's a vicar in the play, so he wears a dog-collar. it's as simple as that. In *Richard III* we used clogs and broomsticks, so we performed a percussive tattoo for all the battle section at the end, and it worked well. That sort of alacrity of wit and physicality really helps the narrative drive. Yes, its rough-theatre — but it ain't sloppy."

There is a wind-in-the-hair drive about the company's working method as well. Rutter rehearsed the whole of *The Merry Wives* in three-and-a-half weeks, because he did not have the money for a longer rehearsal period. That said, everybody in the company is paid above Equity rates. Rutter has proved himself as an actor. It seems he might be a noteworthy director and a shrewd administrator as well.

His latest production, you will have noticed, has expunged all reference to a Home Counties town with quite a nice castle attached. "I've cut Windsor out totally", Rutter says bluntly, "as well as references to other places. There is a fat witch of Bradford, and that's about it. But the attitudes of the characters are still the same. Everybody's out for something, everybody's greedy."

It is a canny choice of play, a broad comedy which is quite socially astute. Rutter chose it in response to the request of the women performers in *Richard III* who wanted a project which gave them extra scope. Rutter himself plays Sir John Falstaff, and while his own performance has been praised, the production has won most notice for apparently unleashing the full force of Northern womanhood.

This may prove an unusual experience for visitors to the Lyric Hammersmith, a theatre with velvet seats in the heart of west London. "When you play places like The Mills there is definitely a change of audience," says Rutter. "But when we get to Hammersmith they will get exactly the same: white lights, a table, a bench and us. You might not like us, but your gonna know why you don't like us, because you're gonna get us — in spades."

● *The Merry Wives opens tonight at the Lyric, Hammersmith (081-741 2311)*

MARTIN BEDDALL



Edward Peel as Ford, left, and Barrie Rutter as Falstaff put the finishing touches to their performances in *The Merry Wives*

ROCK

In a world of his own

Rainer
Mean Fiddler

Since his groundbreaking visit to Britain last year, Rainer has recorded with Robert Plant and released an album, *The Texas Tapes*, featuring ZZ Top in the unlikely role of his backing band. But despite the friends in high places and a bulging collection of cuttings larded with critical superlatives, the East German-born blues guitarist from Tuscon, Arizona, has yet to fulfil his potential as a live attraction.

The turnout at the Mean Fiddler on a wet, Sunday night was poor, and the numbers inevitably dwindled further as the performance, which started late, stretched into the early hours of Monday morning. But Rainer, a boyish, blond-haired figure seated alone on the stage, was in a world of his own. Dressed in a plaid workshirt and faded blue jeans, and cradling a 1933 National Steel guitar which looked as if it belonged in a museum, he played with an intensity of purpose that was utterly enthralling.

Placed at his feet were a couple of pedal-triggered sampling devices along with some battered old shakers, taped to the floor. With his right foot he used the pedals instantly to record brief guitar sequences — anything from a sympathetic drone to a full-blown riff — which he then wove into the fabric of song as he played and sang it. Meanwhile, his left foot thumped the shakers to create a percussion effect in the time-honoured manner.



Rainer: intense

Playing an open-tuned guitar simultaneously with his fingers and a slide, and utilising this seamless combination of primitive instinct and high-tech gadgetry to create unearthly patchworks of sound and rhythm, Rainer then supplied the final touch of voodoo with a stark, blueswailing voice, frequently rising to a high-register howl.

On up-tempo numbers such as "Tasted Better Going Down (Valerie)" and "I Wish You Would", the guitar sounded like freight trains hurrying past in the distance. On a bizarre song about a well-travelled boll weevil, he set up a strange, dissonant trill, a neurotic sort of jangle that got under the skin. And on one number he casually triggered a loop of rhythm and lead guitar, while he broke off to have a puff on his cigarette and swig a pint of Guinness.

It was a rare moment of levity in a performance which demanded close attention, and suffered at times from Rainer's insular nature. For although a great musician, he is not a natural at communicating with an audience.

He did relax a bit with standards such as Willie Nelson's "Funny How Time Slips Away" and Billie Holiday's "God Bless The Child". But for most of this unique-sounding set he painted a bleak yet vivid portrait of a man driven by his own strange demons.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TELEVISION REVIEW

Black holes in the mind

For much of last night's **Cutting Edge: Royal Treatment** (Channel 4) it was a bit hard to see what all the fuss was about. The subject was a Glasgow psychiatric hospital, Gartnavel Royal, in which several patients, owing to alleged lapses in supervision, had committed suicide. Clearly this was a terrible thing, and the families were understandably inconsolable. But what we never discovered was whether this was a legitimate scandal.

Does Gartnavel have a worse record than any other psychiatric hospital? Is there any comparative research to show (as commonsense would tell you) that desperate determined people simply do succeed in killing themselves eventually, whatever the level of supervision they receive?

We will never know. Instead, we got moody tracking shots of the tall neo-gothic towers of Gartnavel (filmed from the boundary of the grounds?): Bill Paterson in eloquent voice-over: a spokesman from the Greater Glasgow Community and Mental Health Unit (a fine PR man, who spoke repeatedly of personal regret); and the heartbreaking details of the dead patients' lives, as described by their relatives.

We saw photos and headstones, heard about childhoods, adolescences and crack-ups, and felt solemn at the sadness of the bereaved. But did this programme really make a case? If the hospital were so blameworthy, so negligent, why wasn't this expose more emphatic and more passionate?

The worst case concerned a middle-aged factory supervisor named Joseph Gilmartin. On holiday in Tenerife with his wife, he learnt that his mother had died. Within three weeks his father had died, too. His world fell apart. When he also lost his job, he experienced a mental breakdown.

He stood in his front garden, instructing imaginary workers; in the middle of the night, he insisted on waiting at the bus stop for his usual lift to work. Admitted to Gartnavel at 4pm one afternoon, he immediately went missing, wandered into a road, and was killed by a bus. He had been under the care of Gartnavel for an hour and a half.

Such a case is clearcut, and tragic. Joseph Gilmartin did not want to kill himself; given time, he would have recovered from the breakdown. In the other cases in last night's programme, however, it was much harder to summon indignation against the hospital, perhaps because the life-story of each individual was so relentlessly moribund and horrific.

Jeanette McDonald made 11 suicide attempts in hospital before hanging herself in a lavatory. Joe Doherty slashed his wrists and set himself on fire, and despite responding to electroconvulsive therapy, one day walked to the Erskine Bridge and threw himself in the Clyde.

> 'Each new story was relentlessly moribund and horrific'

The issue was supervision, but the programme never explained what this means in practical terms. That the official Fatal Accident Inquiries repeatedly failed to blame the hospital in such cases may simply indicate that sometimes — well, you win some, you lose some. Perhaps the true subject of *Royal Treatment* was overstretched resources; either way, let's hope it drew attention to a pattern of failure and did some good.

But for the layman viewer, who had too few means to judge the rights and wrongs, the value of a film such as *Royal Treatment* was that it glimpsed the despair of such people as Jeanette McDonald, who threw herself from a high window, swallowed polish, and tried to cut out her tongue with a pair of nail scissors. Such disturbance seems to require treatment, not just supervision — but again, the programme was silent on an important factor, and left you just trying to grasp the horror of a suicidal state of mind.

LYNNE TRUSS

Nothing lost in the translation

Kate Bassett reviews the latest London Fringe offerings

J.M. Synge's Irish classic, *The Playboy of the Western World*, lovingly transported across the Atlantic and re-set in Trinidad, is far from damaged in transit. Mustapha Matura's adaptation, sticking close to the original plot, is essentially an inspired paraphrase. He freely translates out of one alternative to "the Queen's English" and into another as vibrantly inventive and richly comic as the first. Thus Pegeen, wondering at the eloquence of her lover — "Christy Mahon ... that has such poet's talking, and such bravery of heart" — transmutes into Peggy asking, "where you learn to rhapsody so ... make me think I list'nin' to the sea at night".

Playboy of the West Indies (at the Tricycle, Kilburn), carefully and colourfully relocated, seems made for the Caribbean with its male characters struggling to rule the roost, its sassy, sexual women, and the admiration of aggressive machismo in tension with a vocabulary that implies Christian values.

This revival of Nicolas Kent's excellent staging, first seen at the Tricycle in 1983, is still fresh and funny. Cyril Nri (Ken, Matura's Christy) and Cecilia Noble (Peggy) head the new cast with strong performances.

Nri hits the nail on the head as the eponymous playboy and father-killer manqué: he combines youthful shyness with loving warmth and a dash of excited bravado. Still, Noble is the more potent stage presence, at once tender and tough as nails; laidback but with a tongue on her like a cat-o'-nine-tails.

In **The Bells of Notre Dame** (Warehouse, Croydon) Vince Foxall clearly takes liberties with Victor Hugo's novel, adapting melodrama into pantomime. Quasimodo, undiscovered heir to the French throne, might have been sired by a primate who made amour with a pixie. Tiny, zesty, Miltos Yerolemou — shouldering a sizable part as the notorious campanologist of Notre Dame — is not so much a cripple as an acrobatic cross breed: chimp with added imp. In a soiled medieval anorak and down-and-out elf-in boots, this homeless gnome swings from liana-like bell-ropes and monkeys about for King Louis Quelquefois who is, incidentally, an impostor, a woman, a cannibal and liable to bite the dust courtesy of the revolting Parisian masses.

Evil Archdeacon Frollo (the excellent Stefan Bednarczyk) supplies his own feedback in conversation with the skeleton of a well-roasted religious martyr. The innocent Esmeralda (Louise English), with whom Frollo desires to frolic, warbles a silly ditty with bohemians who obviously come from up north in Albion. Phoebus (Francis Magee), a stud from the Foreign Legion with a codpiece like a camera case (allowing for zoom), bites hunks from the foreleg of his dismembered horse. He boasts of humps left, right and centre while Quasimodo has none to speak of.

Perhaps, with rumpy pumpy in garret and dungeon and a hefty wodge of innuendo, this may not be Christmas fare for strictly innocent infants. Yet it is barely cunning enough for adult tastes. One has to work a little at staying amused. The story entails so many bite-size sub-plots it is hard to swallow, and Foxall's franglais wears thin. Still, sipping a glass of wine and eating your supper while others sing, no doubt makes the evening slip down more easily.

In **You Can't Take It With You** (at the King's Head, Islington) the Sycamores are, to an extent, the Addams family of the 1930s. Mom, Pop, the kids and the old folk are cranky as they come but my, aren't they amusing. Or that's the general idea. The Sycamores are, actually, about as rosy and cosy as screwballs can be. Their only mildly macabre habit is keeping a snake, in this case frozen in mid-slither, clearly suffering from stage fright. The pet apart, what really makes the Sycamores curiosities is that they have artistic inclinations and appear to be unemployed.

This feel-good comedy, co-written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart (which cheered audiences during the Depression and was made into a film starring James Stewart in 1938), certainly has an anti-establishment edge. But the play, while laughing at these kookie artists, also, of course, loves them to bits. In spite of plenty of funny lines and a big name cast, Martin Connor's production lays on comedy with a trowel and the central romance is excruciatingly gooey. Only for those with an insatiably sweet tooth.

DOUGLAS H. JEFFERY



Cyril Nri, as Ken, gets a drubbing in *Playboy of the West Indies* at the Tricycle

RECITAL: The King's Singers celebrate their 25th anniversary

Still singing, still swinging

The last time I heard the King's Singers live was at their tenth birthday concert. Since Saturday night's concert at the Barbican celebrated their silver anniversary, you will gather that I am not one of their most devoted admirers. But fans they have aplenty. They turned up on Saturday in their coachloads — indeed in their charter planes: two hundred from the United States, we were told, and many more from places as diverse as Bermuda and Hungary.

Anniversary concerts can be awkward occasions, but this one was thoroughly enjoyable — not least when the audience burst in with a verse of "Happy Birthday", complete with barbershop harmonies. It also marked the retirement of two of the ensemble's founder members — countertenor Alastair Hume and baritone Simon Carrington — so there was some good-hearted ageist banter in between the music-making.

The personnel has changed remarkably little over the past 25 years — there have been 13 of them altogether — and so has the delivery. The strength of the present group is not as solo singers, as the occasional lead vocal makes clear. But the ensemble work is as stunning as ever: precise, perfectly pitched and squeaky clean.

Their range of repertoire also remains impressive. The anniversary concert featured madrigals from Italy and Spain, as well as some modern-day equivalents, the Nonsense Madrigals, commissioned from György Ligeti, and a new piece by tenor Bob Chilcott that eloquently juxtaposed images of passing time by Cummings, Joyce, Larkin and Walter Ralegh. For the last, the group was joined by the excellent girl choristers of Salisbury Cathedral, whose freshness nicely offset the sleek professionalism of the old troupers.

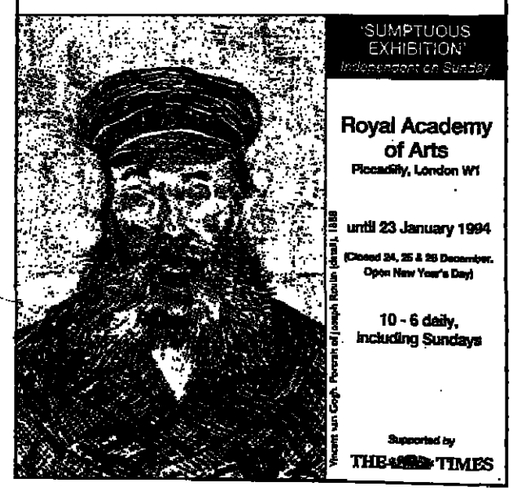
I continue to find the King's sound too homogenised, their rhythmic motion too well-oiled, too nuance-free, to convince entirely in the early repertoire. Nor was I alone in enjoying the second half more: widespread outbreaks of bronchitis miraculously cleared up after the interval.

Here we were treated to a dozen or so songs (Cole Porter, Beatles, Paul Simon, Billy Joel) in tailor-made versions by the ensemble's most dedicated arrangers. Each arrangement was a thing of wonder in its own way, but I especially admired Goff Richards's reworking of "Who is Sylvia?", Andrew Pryce Jackman's of Paul Simon's "50 Ways To Leave Your Lover", and Daryl Runswick's of "Back in the USSR" (for which the Singers were joined by the National Youth Chamber Choir of Great Britain).

A touch of class, a dash of do-be-do, and a huge dollop of schlock: it's a winning recipe.

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LAW

● GETTING FAT ON GATT 34
● LAW REPORT 35

The Lord Chancellor's proposals will arouse opposition, **Stephen Cretney** says



Divorce on demand

Nearly a quarter of a century ago, the Law Commission asserted that a good divorce law should seek to buttress rather than undermine the stability of marriage, while allowing the empty legal shell of marriages which had irretrievably broken down to be destroyed with maximum fairness and minimum bitterness.

The Divorce Reform Act 1969 accordingly proclaimed that it was an act to facilitate reconciliation: and stated that the sole ground for divorce should be that the marriage had broken down irretrievably. The act also contained provisions (for example that solicitors should certify whether prospects of reconciliation had been discussed) designed to allay concern about the termination of marriages capable of being saved; and provisions apparently protecting those who might suffer grave hardship from divorce.

Yet it was not long before disquiet started to emerge over the impact of the new law. It became clear that divorce was actually available only to those prepared to separate for a few years or to make allegations of adultery or desertion against a spouse; the provisions for reconciliation and protection had little effect.

By 1990, the Law Commission, backed by research and public attitude surveys, had accepted that the law was confusing and unjust, that it provoked hostility and bitterness and that it could even exacerbate the effect on children of marital breakdown.

The publication last week by the Lord Chancellor of a sensitive and compassionate consultation paper (*Looking to the Future, Mediation and the Ground for Divorce*) has now put the issue of reform of the grounds for divorce, but not those of its financial and other consequences, firmly on the political agenda.

In some ways the consultation paper contains little new. Irretrievable breakdown is to remain, in theory, the sole ground for divorce; but such breakdown will be established by one or both parties filing a notice and waiting for one year. In this period the Lord Chancellor intends that the couple should consider the practical consequences and reflect on whether the breakdown is irretrievable.

The Law Commission's report had set out in impressive detail an elaborate court-led procedure to encourage constructive use of this waiting time. But some saw the proposals as an opportunity for manipulation and tactical exploitation: there would be applications to extend the one-year period, applications for interim orders, requests for information and so on.

At the core of the Lord Chancellor's new proposals is an emphasis on mediation. The belief is that this would increase the likelihood of the waiting period being used constructively. Instead of resorting to litigation to sort out financial and other matters, a couple are — with the help of a third party — to negotiate these matters directly. Mediation will not be compulsory but it appears that everyone will be obliged to attend an "initial personal interview", where they will be given information about the law, procedures, marriage guidance and mediation.

This interview, it is claimed, would help identify saveable marriages. A condition of couples receiving any public funds would be that they behave "reasonably", presumably by accepting the guidance of the mediator.

These proposals seem certain to arouse strong opposition. This is likely to come not only from those lawyers who want to preserve their income. The requirement to attend an interview, no doubt a well-intended proposal, seems patronising, and, indeed, offensive, to many who may reasonably feel competent to make their own decisions.

What useful purpose would be served by requiring, say, the eight-times married Elizabeth Taylor to see a mediator to have the implications of marital breakdown explained to her and to be provided with an information pack?

The implications of the proposals for those who are apparently to be denied legal aid because a state official considers they should follow the advice he has offered are alarming.

Although mediation has been shown to offer important benefits in many cases, it seems that a great deal more thought will have to be given to the qualifications, training and precise function of those who are to play such a vital role in the handling of the weak, the vulnerable — and, indeed, the strong and determined — before a reasoned judgment can be made about the scheme's viability.

In 1969 legislation was skilfully drafted to disguise the reality that divorce was to be available on the basis of a period of separation or on the traditional fault grounds of adultery, desertion or behaviour.

The Law Commission's 1990 proposals seem equally concerned to disguise the reality that divorce — albeit deferred for a year — is to be available on unilateral demand. Experience suggests that this is not a satisfactory basis for legislation: not least because of the confusion engendered among the many ordinary people who find themselves trapped in a system they do not begin to comprehend.

● *The author is law professor at Bristol University*

The right to silence improves policing

A predictable furore broke out over police questioning after the recent case in which George Heron was acquitted of murdering seven-year-old Nikki Allan; the judge had condemned heavy-handed interrogation techniques. At its best, good interviewing results in acceptable and admissible evidence. But, regrettably, such interviews are too few in number. Major failings in technique are commonplace; and solicitors who represent suspects in the police station cannot escape criticism. It is their role to identify and comment on such shortcomings.

The law provides them with only limited support. Yet the Home Secretary proposes to make changes which will undermine their position and encourage bad and ineffective police practice. The "right to silence" is an essential right if police standards are to be raised, detectives are to be encouraged to seek independent evidence, and false confessions avoided.

Not all senior officers recognise the problems that exist. Yet if these were addressed, the Home Secretary's proposals would be unnecessary; the risk that they involve, particularly for the vulnerable, need never be run.

The way forward has been identified. The "principles" of investigative interviewing have been approved by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice. These confirm that the role of interviewing is to obtain accurate and reliable information from suspects, witnesses or victims. It should be approached with an open mind.



ANTHONY EDWARDS

Police officers come too quickly to a conclusion. Too often, they do not question at all; they assert their version and persist in putting it, without any supporting material, however clearly denied. There can be no surprise that some suspects prefer to say nothing than to see their explanations twisted or ignored. Detectives often do not listen to what is being said to them by suspects. On occasions they miss lines of enquiry that would assist them or would acquit the suspect of any blame.

Police officers must first gather and evaluate material: if they put this forward fairly, as the "principles" of investigative interviewing require, they will find interviewing much more satisfactory. Where there is no material to support an allegation, nothing is to be lost by acknowledging the fact early on and so relieving all concerned, victims and witnesses as well as suspects, of unnecessary anxiety.

If defence solicitors believed that police officers had accepted that approach, they would be less troubled by those parts of the "principles" which indicate that an officer is not bound to accept the first answer given and may persist in a line of questioning, whatever the suspect's attitude. Taken out of the investigative context, this merely authorises the often hectoring, cynical and unsatisfactory approach taken today.

The Court of Appeal has indicated that no longer are solicitors, present at interview, to remain passive. Yet recent experience shows that after solicitors intervene, some officers are either unable to continue their questioning or resort to threats and abuse. For lawyers this is hardly satisfactory. The job is demanding enough already.

In the course of any interviews, solicitors must seek to identify misleading statements and prevent questions which are unclear, ambiguous, amount to more than one question, or seek answers about assumed events that have not taken place. They must stop irrelevant issues being raised and undue repetition. They must prevent assertion, comment and the use of technical language or language beyond the understanding of a suspect.

They must be on guard for imperfect statements of the law, questions based on a false premise, inaccurate recollection of what has already been said, and the whole range of psychological tricks presently in use — from undue familiarity to the undermining of a suspect's self-esteem. They have to be firm to comment on bullying, threats, inducements and insulting behaviour. They must identify "vulnerable" people whom the "principles" require to be treated with particular consideration at all times.

Solicitors can only undertake this role if police officers disclose all relevant material to them. Solicitors have to negotiate for it. The "right to silence" is a vital negotiating factor. To undermine that right will lower police standards, not raise them. The more progressive officers have come to realise that by providing information and respecting the solicitor's role, by using interviews to investigate, not to accuse, they will be able to take good cases forward to conviction without the risk of losing critical evidence at trial. If this is not done, the police face a far greater challenge.

At present, the "principles" of investigative interviewing do not require them to proceed only on the basis of admissible evidence. If police officers persist in ignoring their underlying policy, those who have argued for the need formally to corroborate every confession will have a significantly strengthened case.

● *The author is secretary of the London Criminal Courts' Solicitors' Association.*

Judge ends court bore

A CANADIAN judge has thrown a case out of court because the expert witness appearing for the defendant was too boring, according to a report in *The Forensic Accountant*, a newsletter published by KPMG Peat Marwick. The judge described the man as "beyond doubt the dullest witness I've ever had in my court ... He speaks in a monotonal voice ... and uses language so drab and convoluted that even the court reporter cannot stay conscious ... I've had it. Three solid days of his steady drone ... is enough. I cannot face the prospect of another 14 indictments. It's probably unethical, but I don't care."

Good judgment

SO LORD Mackay of Clashfern, and the four senior judges (Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Sir Thomas Bingham, Sir Stephen Brown and Sir Donald Nicholls) have seen off threats of being judicially reviewed in their own courts by the Law Society. Their decision last week to give the go-ahead to solicitors in private practice to move into the higher courts — while deferring on solicitors in the Crown Prosecution Service, government, commerce or industry — was about the best result the society could have expected. Even the Bar was delighted with the outcome.

Unions issue writs

FIVE public sector unions have taken advantage of the European Court of Justice ruling in the landmark Francovich case, which establishes the right of individuals to sue the state directly for



David Hunt: may be sued

failure properly to implement EC law. The unions last week issued 128 writs against David Hunt, the Employment Secretary, on behalf of members who allege job losses and cuts in pay and conditions after compulsory competitive tendering or contracting out.

The members claim that if the acquired rights directive (ARD) had been properly implemented, they would not have lost their jobs. The writs have not yet been served, allowing a breathing space should the government negotiate.

Domestic help

WHILST changes in the law on domestic violence are still awaited in the wake of Law Commission recommendations, victims of domestic violence are liable to benefit substantially from a pledge of £2 million to the Women's Aid Federation of England from financial services group Allied Dunbar.

In-house joke

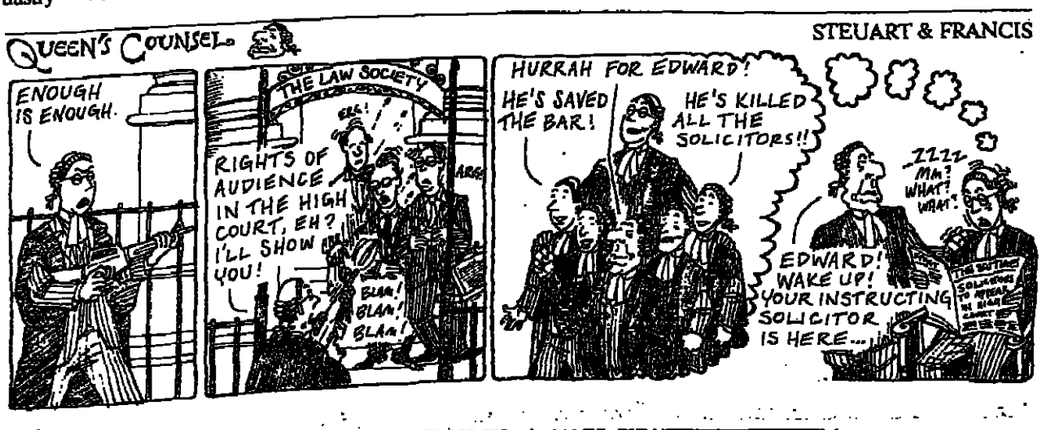
JUST IN case the in-house legal fraternity think they are immune from lawyer-bashing jokes, here's one to liven up their Christmas. A company chairman calls his personnel officer and asks: "Where's the in-house lawyer?" The personnel officer replies: "I'm sorry to have to tell you, but he died yesterday." The next day, the chairman rings again and asks: "Where's the in-house lawyer?" The personnel officer thinks it's strange, but politely replies: "He died two days ago." The next day the chairman calls again asking the same question. The exasperated personnal officer says, "What's going on? I've already told you twice he died." "I know," replies the chairman. "I just like to hear you say it."

No entry

IN BRITAIN there is growing concern that the reduction in the number of grants is limiting access to the legal profession, a situation that would get a hearty thumbs-up from Singapore's Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. Convinced that 35 lawyers per 50,000 people was already too much of a good thing, he has passed a law aimed at limiting the number of lawyers. From now on, to practise, a lawyer must have a second class degree or better, the diploma course will be limited to 50 places a year and foreign degrees will be worthless after 1997.

Barred to the call

NO SEX please, we are New York divorce lawyers. After a series of scandals, in which lawyers were accused of taking advantage of emotionally vulnerable clients, the New York Bar has introduced a rule banning divorce lawyers from having sex with a client, on pain of disbarment. There is no similar rule in England, but the Law Society code warns lawyers to consider whether a sexual relationship with a client would create a conflict of interest.



LONDON

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RUSSIAN SPEAKER TO £35,000
Small London office of international law firm seeks Russian speaking solicitor with up to two years' experience to assist with joint ventures in the CIS. Experience of project finance will be advantageous, as will an understanding of the oil and gas industries. The firm has an international client base and a progressive attitude towards new areas of work. This position will involve a considerable amount of travel. (Ref.2778)

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LIT/EMPLOYMENT TO £36,000
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For further information in complete confidence, please contact **Sally Horrox, Lisa Hicks** or **Jonathan Brenner** (all qualified lawyers) on **071-377 0510** (071-736 5515 evenings/weekends) or write to us at **Zarak Macrae Brenner**, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

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Trade talks open doors to legal bonanza

It is a typical "no-lose" scenario for corporate lawyers this week. Whether or not the Uruguay Round of the world trade talks is successfully concluded by tomorrow's deadline, lawyers will have more work.

However, according to Keith Hendry, a partner in the Brussels office of Clifford Chance, by far the most preferable outcome is a success for the talks on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). He says: "It will lead to a huge extension of trade work as well as giving a boost to intellectual property and investment work."

This view is confirmed by Paul de Chazal, of Simmons & Simmons, who says: "Were Gatt not to be approved, it would lead to a whole series of mini-trade wars. Undoubtedly, some lawyers would do well out of that. But really it is not the kind of work one wants and in the long term there is more benefit to be gained from a growth in international trade rather than a reduction."

Until the flurry of activity in the past couple of weeks, most lawyers and their clients were pessimistic about Gatt. Chris Hilton, the chairman of the International Practice Unit at Eversheds, says: "There's been great apprehension amongst our manufacturing clients about the prospect of failure at Gatt. There were gloomy faces all round and an expectation that it would not be signed. So a completed agreement by December 15 would be a welcome relief for them and a pleasure for us. We're currently developing our own international practice outside as well as within the European Union and for Gatt to fail would be a blow to that expansion."

Although there is some scepticism among lawyers about Gatt officials' claims that everyone will benefit from an agreement, it seems likely that far more countries will be drawn into the top division of economic activity. Mr de Chazal says it is a matter of mood and confidence as much as regulation — an atmosphere of the barriers coming down will do much to encourage greater investment in developing countries.

To make the most of a positive Gatt outcome, however, needs a global spread of offices. For example, Latin America is likely to be one of the regions which is most significantly affected by Gatt, having been largely outside international conventions on intellectual property. Lawyers' intellectual-property practices are going to be affected by Gatt in a big way. It should now be possible to pursue cases of intellectual-property theft in countries that have been safe havens for the thieves. But to do that effectively will need either a local presence or credible local connections. It is only the largest, most internationally minded law firms which have these networks in place.

Chris Bright, a partner in Linklaters, confirms that it is the developing countries, such as India, which offer some of the best prospects if Gatt goes through. He says that experience in selling services to public utilities in Europe will open up opportunities in public procurement, especially in America.

EDWARD FENNELL

Directors seek a limit to liability

The taxman is wrong to treat litigation insurance as a perk, says Roger Flaxman

There's nothing like a colossal loss to concentrate the attention and activate the adrenalin. By blaming management style for Queens Moat Houses' £1.04 million loss, and considering legal action against the old board, Andrew Coppel, the chief executive of the group, must have sent many directors racing to examine their own insurance cover against the time when something of the kind could be levelled against them. The former directors have denied the accusations.

Shareholders often sue the board of a company for mismanagement after an unexpected trading loss. Company directors can be sued during takeovers, either by shareholders unhappy with the board of the acquiring company or by the incoming board who allege misrepresentation on behalf of outgoing directors.

Even when such actions are ultimately unsuccessful, the directors and officers of the company have to pay their own legal costs during an action, as companies are precluded from indemnifying their officers, at least until the action is resolved. Directors and officers, such as company secretaries and compliance officers, are at a considerable advantage if they have "directors' and officers' " (D&O) cover.

It is therefore distressing to find that the Inland Revenue is attempting to tax those directors and officers who buy D&O cover, on the premium, or on the proceeds of a claim, as a benefit of kind.

D&O insurance indemnifies the directors and officers of a company against claims made against them, or any of them, for having committed "wrongful acts" and/or of having been negligent in the performance of their responsibilities or duties. They gain no private personal benefit whatsoever.

Although a company cannot make provision to indemnify its directors, since 1989 the Companies Act has allowed companies to purchase D&O insurance to protect directors other than for fraud and dishonesty.

The Inland Revenue argues that the cover afforded is a personal benefit, and, where a premium is paid by the company, the director should be taxed on this as a benefit in kind, as if it were comparable to private health insurance. Private health insurance benefits the individual in a personal, private way only.

The directors of a company could be considered in breach of their duties if they failed to arrange appropriate insurances to protect the company's legal liabilities. D&O insurance is, first and foremost, the provision of expert legal advice to defend the directors and officers as employees of a company, in their personal corporate capacity, against allegations against them which, if they were required to meet them from their own personal resources, could be disastrous.

The cost of such advice would probably be more than most directors could afford and could lead to bankruptcy. Other less tangible costs would be destabilisation and destruction of the company as its day-to-day focus concentrated on defending the directors, rather than profitable trading, ultimately giving shareholders and employees legitimate claims for neglect by the directors.

In the event of a claim on the insurance, the D&O policy reimburses the company for the amount it has expended indemnifying directors. This is the real purpose of such policies. There is a need to protect a director separately only because the Companies Act says that the company cannot indemnify without permission of the court and this cannot be obtained without prior investigation, which necessitates incurring legal advice.

It would be a tragedy if in this country we find competent, honest and diligent men and women declining directorships for fear of unjustified litigation which they personally cannot afford to defend. While our Government is trying to improve standards of practice and responsibility in the financial sector supported by the independent efforts of the Confederation of British Industry, the Institute of Directors and PRONED (Promotion of Non-Executive Directors), should the Inland Revenue be allowed to undermine the entire initiative by this unfair and ill-reasoned form of taxation?

● *The author is Director, Professional Liabilities Ltd*

STEWART GOLDSTEIN



A prisoner at Canterbury prison discusses his case with his QC, Heather Hallett, using a video link to the Bar Council offices

Video links ensure justice is seen to be done for prisoners

PRISONERS can now talk direct to counsel via five video link. A pilot project to test the use of video links and to cut the costs of escorting prisoners to court for remand hearings is being tested over the next three months at Canterbury, Maidstone, Dorchester and Risley.

The scheme has been set up as a co-operative effort by the Bar Council, the Home Office, the Lord Chancellor's department and prison service. It uses BT equipment: its ISDN (integrated service digital network) telephone lines and video conferencing system. Prisoners go to a specially-equipped studio room within the prison and can talk to barristers at the Bar Council's video-link rooms, either in London or Birmingham.

A spokesman for the Bar says: "This saves money and time spent in travelling perhaps three hours on a train; and it ensures that counsel can have a private conversation with the prisoner, which is not always possible because prisons often do not have proper facilities. The studios have been designed with that in mind."

But he adds that the video links will not replace face-to-face interviews completely. "There will always be a need for the barrister and client to meet — that personal contact is important."

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PRACTICE
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Law Report December 14 1993 Court of Appeal

Service by post to correct address

Willowgreen Ltd v Smithers
Before Lord Justice Nourse and Mr Justice Thorpe
[Judgment December 1]

Service of a summons on a defendant by post under Order 7, rule 10(1) of the County Court Rules (*SI* 1981 No 1687 (L. 20)) had to be made to an address at which he had some continuing presence. That could not include a place where the defendant was never present even though it had a direct and immediate connection with him.

The Court of Appeal concluding that the defendant, Mr Douglas Smithers, had never been properly served with the summons, allowed his appeal from the refusal by Judge Quentin Edwards, QC, at the Central London County Court in April 1992 to set aside the judgment given on December 6, 1990, by Judge Martin in which he gave possession of Flat 135, Peters Court, Paddington, London and arrears of rent to the plaintiffs, Willowgreen Ltd.

Order 3, rule 3(1) of the County Court Rules 1981 provides that a plaintiff desiring to commence a default or fixed date action shall file a request for the issue of a summons.

Order 7, rule 10 provides: "(1) . . . service of a summons shall be effected . . . (b) by an officer of the court sending it by first-class post to the defendant at the address stated in the request for summons."

Miss Beverley Lang for the defendant: Mr Anthony Radevsky for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said in the plaintiffs' action as landlords for forfeiture and possession of a flat the address stated in the request for the issue of a summons was that of the flat where the defendant, who was the tenant, had never lived or worked. The question, one of some general importance, was whether, on its delivery the summons was properly served on the defendant.

The flat was demised to the defendant and his mother for a term of 99 years at a premium of £17,500 in 1978. It was to be a home for the defendant's mother and stepfather.

By clause 8 of the lease "any demand for payment, notice or other document required or authorised to be given to the tenant shall be well and sufficiently given if sent by the lessor . . . through the post addressed to the tenant by name . . . or may be left for the tenant at the premises".

In 1979 the mother died. The stepfather continued to live in the flat, having agreed with the defendant to pay all the outgoings. The defendant last saw his stepfather in 1986. He did not go to the flat beween then and 1991, by which time his stepfather had disappeared and others were in occupation.

The plaintiffs in September 1990 pursuant to Order 3, rule 3(1) of the 1981 Rules had filed in the county court a request for the issue of a summons for possession of land against the defendant on form N 204. That form was not one prescribed by the 1981 Rules but a practice form approved by the Lord Chancellor. The address stated in the appropriate boxes was that of the flat.

Thereafter, in purported performance of Order 7, rule 10(1)(b), the court had sent the summons to the defendant at the flat. It never came to his notice. Thus it was that in December 1990 Judge Martin entered judgment for the plaintiffs.

Judge Edwards held that the summons had been properly served on the defendant and that as rights of innocent third parties had arisen he declined to exercise his discretion to set the judgment aside.

On the question of service Judge Edwards thought that the plaintiffs' only obligation under the rules was to state in the request for the summons an address which had a direct and immediate connection with the defendant. If that was right then in view of clause 8 of the lease it was probable that the plaintiffs did what they had to do.

The judge's interpretion was not correct. Form N 204 was not a prescribed form and could not be resorted to in order to construe the rules. It was implicit in Order 7, rule 10(1)(b) that the plaintiffs were obliged to state the defendant's address in the request for the summons.

What was the defendant's "address" for that purpose? In ordinary parlance a person's address was a place at which written communications could be delivered to him and he was present to receive them. The extent to which his presence was necessary to make it his address might vary, and vary significantly with the circumstances. But if he was never there at all it could not be called his address.

In *White v Weston* ([1968] 2 QB 647) a summons sent to a defendant at a place where he had ceased to reside five months earlier was held not to have been properly served. Lord Justice Russell, like Lord Justice Sachs, regarded it as essential that the defendant should have had some continuing presence there before the residence could properly have been called his address.

"Address" in rule 10(1)(b) was to be construed in accordance with its ordinary meaning. It did not include a place at which the defendant was never present, albeit that it was a place which in the circumstances of the case might well have a direct and immediate connection with him.

It followed that the summons was not properly served on the defendant. The judgment having been obtained in proceedings thus initiated had to be set aside *ex debito justitiae*.

Mr Justice Thorpe gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Parfitt Cresswell Carnt & Mudie, Fulham; Finers.

Greater duty of care to disabled athletes

Morrell v Owen and Others
Before Mr Justice Mitchell
[Judgment December 1]

The duty of care owed by organisers and coaches of a disabled persons' sporting event to the disabled participants was greater than that owed by the organisers and coaches where the participants were able bodied.

Mr Justice Mitchell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment in favour of the plaintiff, Wendy Ann Mary Morrell, a paraplegic amateur archer, in her claim for damages for personal injury brought against the defendants, Patricia Owen, sued in her capacity as treasurer of the British Les Autres Sports Association, and various members of BLASA. His Lordship found against only John Morton, the archery coach, and Peter Arnold, the discus coach at the event in question.

Mr Daniel Brennan, QC and Mr Edward Grayson for the plaintiff: Mr William Gage, QC and Mr David Melville for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE MITCHELL said that Miss Morrell had been disabled since the age of 15. She took up archery in 1988, joined an archery club in that year, and having reached a suitable standard made her first competitive appearance in 1989.

The accident, the subject of this action, occurred during a training session held on November 25 and 26, 1989 at the Fox Hollies Leisure Centre and Sports Hall, in Birmingham, under the auspices of BLASA. BLASA had organised two separate activities during that weekend, namely discus and archery, to be held simultaneously in the same hall, which was divided by a fish-net curtain. Discuses were being thrown against the net.

There was no possibility of a discus from one part of the hall entering the other part by travelling over the top of the net, but a stray discus could enter the other part by travelling past the sides of the net. Further, discuses thrown against the net would cause it to billow towards the archers' section.

Anyone entering or leaving the archery section in the hall, for example to visit the lavatories, had to negotiate their own passage past the discus section.

All the participants in both events were paraplegic sportsmen and women who had achieved a high level of competence in their chosen sport.

During the hearing, Miss Morrell claimed not to have been aware at the time of the event that there was a discus throwing event in the hall that weekend. No fewer than three people claim to have warned Miss Morrell of the dangers posed by the discus event but their testimonies in court were confused and conflicting.

Miss Morrell herself claimed not to have been informed of the nature or dangers of the event at the other side of the net. His Lordship accepted her version of the events.

His Lordship also accepted that the archers had received no safety instructions that weekend and that the BLASA coaches had not taken any special safety precautions.

The injury to Miss Morrell was caused by a stray discus striking the net causing it to billow towards the archers' section of the hall. It struck Miss Morrell on her temple, causing, *inter alia*, permanent brain damage.

In his Lordship's judgment, the kind of misthrow which occurred was entirely foreseeable and so too was the accident in question. His Lordship added that the coaches in the event, acting on behalf of BLASA, owed a greater duty of care to the participants than would be owed by the coaches had the participants been able bodied.

The particular responsibility of the coaches where the participants were disabled included instructing the disabled participants in appropriate safety procedures and practice, providing for the safe passage of participants moving into and out of the practice area, and the provision of an ambulant *ad hoc* person to watch over the movements of the disabled.

Solicitors: Cunningham John & Co, Thetford; Taylor Joynson Garrett.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

Advanced Technology International Limited
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Chantry Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WC1B 5LF on 20 December 1993 at 11.00am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected free of charge, at Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date the meeting dated above.
By Order of the Board
H Silver
Director
Dated 7th December 1993

LESSER DERON & SUILD LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before 15 January 1994, to send in their full Christian and Surnames, their addresses and description, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names Addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, David James Hughes, of Chantrey Vellacott, 64 Queen Street, London W1X 9DF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator(s), are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
D J Suckler
Liquidator
Dated: 1 December 1993

FROGER LIMITED
Take notice that the undersigned, Alan David Kenningham and John Charles Heath of Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU, were appointed Joint Liquidators of FROGER LIMITED, by a resolution of a meeting of the Company's members held on Wednesday 1 December 1993.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 28th day of December 1993, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned at Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU the Liquidator(s) of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator(s), are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
ALAN DAVID KENNINGHAM & JOHN CHARLES HEATH, Joint Liquidators
N.B. This Notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been or will be, paid in full.

Notice of Appointment of Liquidator Voluntary winding up Creditors
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2695520
Name of business: Adsoft Systems Limited
Nature of business: Computer Dealers
Address of registered office: Trevlet House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ
Type of Liquidation: Creditors Voluntary
Liquidator(s): Richard Andrew Segal, A Segal & Co, Trevlet House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ
Office Holder Nos: 006588
Date of appointment: 2 December 1993
By whom appointed: The Members & Creditors
Date: 2 December 1993

HUMBER HOMES (LONDON) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 11.2 (1A) of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the liquidator of the above-named company intends paying a first dividend to creditors. The creditors of the company are required, on or before 20 January 1994 to submit their proofs of debt to the undersigned P G Dunn of Littlejohn Crossley & Davis, 7 Kendrick Place, London W1H 3FF the liquidator of the company, and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt before the date mentioned above is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the first dividend or any subsequent dividend declared before his debt is proved.
P G Dunn, Liquidator
Dated: 8th December 1993

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No 0010819 of 1993
BETWEEN
IN THE MATTER OF WORTH FINE FRAGRANCES PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 1st Day of December 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company from £1,461,334 to £961,334.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th of January 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital may appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 9th day of December 1993
Frankis, Charlesly & Co
(Signature)
of Frankis, Charlesly & Co.
Clifton House
161/165 Fleet Street
London EC4A 2DY.
Solicitors for the above-named Company. Ref: PMG/JL

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE No 0010387 of 1993 CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF LINCOLN HOUSE PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 29th November, 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company from £3,047,981.40 to £2,497,927 and the reduction of the share premium account of the above named Company by £1,774,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of January, 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 10th day of December 1993
Theodore Goddard
150 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4EJ
Solicitors for the above named Company
Ref: 76/417/7142.18

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE No 0010388 of 1993 CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF LINCOLN HOUSE (FURNISHINGS) LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 29th November, 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company from £5,050,000 to £976,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of January, 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 10th day of December 1993
Theodore Goddard
150 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4EJ
Solicitors for the above named Company
Ref: 76/417/7142.29

NOTICE of resolution for payment of capital
MACKENZIE GLASS LIMITED
NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 that:
1. at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above named company ("the Company") held at The King's Observatory, O.S.P., Richmond, Surrey TW9 2AZ on 13 December 1993, special resolutions were passed authorising the payment out of capital of the Company in respect of the purchase by the Company of 3,573 of its own ordinary shares of 6p each and 3,573 deferred ordinary shares of £1 each from Autoglass Limited;
2. the amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £3,754;
3. the statutory declaration and auditors' report dated 9 December 1993 which are required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's registered office which is at 100 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6JA;
4. any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the aforementioned special resolutions for payment out of capital apply to the Court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
The Barwen Pool Production Limited
Registered number: 1442528
Nature of business: Film and Graphics
Trade classification: 46
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 25 November 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Coutts & Company
Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter Richard Copp and Geoffrey Stuart Kinlan (office holder nos(s) 1788 and 8268)
Address: Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
CAL Graphics and Design Limited
Registered number: 2785276
Nature of business: Film and Graphics
Trade classification: 46
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 25 November 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Coutts & Company
Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter Richard Copp and Geoffrey Stuart Kinlan (office holder nos(s) 1788 and 8268
Address: Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
Amber Trading Limited
Registered number: 2441016
Nature of business: Film and Graphics
Trade classification: 46
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 25 November 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Coutts & Company
Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter Richard Copp and Geoffrey Stuart Kinlan (office holder nos(s) 1788 and 8268
Address: Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.

RULE 4.106 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HARPENDEN MOTOR COMPNAY LIMITED
IN LIQUIDATION
TAKE NOTICE THAT I, David John Mason of Morton Thornton & Co, Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 1HD, was appointed Liquidator of Harpenden Motor Company Limited by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on 7 December 1993.
Dated this 8th day of December 1993
DAVID JOHN MASON
LIQUIDATOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
AVONSEY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 19a Cavendish Square, London W1M 9AB, on Friday 17th December 1993 at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 - 101 of the said Act.
Notice is further given that G.H Whitlome FCA of Giles Whitlome, 19a Cavendish Square, London, W1M 9AB, is a person qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the Company and during the period before the day on which the meeting is to be held will furnish creditors free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act.
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that for the purpose of voting secured creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge at the said Registered Office of the Company before the meeting a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
Dated 3rd December 1993
By Order of the Board of Directors
J. SEDEGHI, Director

Butler Borg Millest Fraser LCR Ltd
Registered Number: 778494
Former company name: Butler Borg & L S W Ltd
Trading Name: Butler Borg Millest Fraser LRC Ltd
Nature of Business: Advertising Agency
Trade Classification: 8640
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 6 December 1993
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver(s): National Westminster Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: L A Manning and I P Phillips both of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF. Office Holder Nos: 6477 and 2636

Multicore Holdings Limited
Registered Number: 1489019
Trading Name: Multicore Holdings Limited
Nature of Business: Holding company
Trade Classification: 9500
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): National Westminster Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: L A Manning and I P Phillips both of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF. Office Holder Nos: 6477 and 2636.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

The Chambers of
RONALD THWAITES QC
WINSTON RODDICK QC (Deputy Head)
GEORGES KHAYAT QC (Deputy Head)
10 KING'S BENCH WALK
are pleased to announce that:
RUSSEL STONE, IAIN DANIELS & CHRISTOPHER HARDING
have joined chambers and will practise in all the common law subjects
and that
STUART HALL
has been appointed First Junior Clerk with immediate effect
Senior Clerk: CHRISTOPHER DRURY
Telephone 071 353 2501

3 Essex Court
The Chambers of Kenneth Rokison Q.C. are pleased to announce that on 1st January 1994
we shall be moving to 20 Essex Street
Mr Graham Charkham, a former partner of Clyde & Co has accepted an invitation to join Chambers.
Lord Griffiths of Govilon will accept appointments to act as arbitrator in International and Commercial disputes.
The present telehone and fax numbers will remain the same.
Chambers members are now as follows:

Kenneth Rokison QC	Iain Milligan QC	Stephen Males	Andrew Baker
Sir Francis Vallat GBE KCMG QC	Angus Glennie QC	Elizabeth Birch	Clifford Gill
Elihu Lauterpacht CBE QC	Peter Gross QC	Edmund Broadbent	Daniel Bethlehem
Sir Arthur Watts KCMG QC	Mark Havelock-Allan QC	Nicholas Hamblen	Charles Mackenzie
David Johnson QC	Julian Cooke	Stephen Morris	Michael Coburn
Murray Pickering QC	Christopher Russell	David Owen	Lawrence Akka
Martin Moore-Bick QC	Richard Wood	Christopher Hancock	Clare Ambrose
Nicholas Legh-Jones QC	Timothy Young	Duncan Matthews	Karen Maxwell
Richard Plender QC	Patricia Phelan	Geraldine Clark	Graham Charkham

20 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AL. Telephone 071 583 9294
Fax 071 583 1341: Telex 893468 Sxcort G: DX 0009 Lond/Chan Lane: Lix LON111
Senior Clerk: Neil Palmer
PRACTITIONERS IN COMMERCIAL, INTERNATIONAL AND EC LAW

To keep pace with the demands of our expanding practice in the former USSR, we are looking for two Russian speaking lawyers to be based in London.
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• An Uzbeck-qualified lawyer fluent in Uzbeck and Russian and with a good command of spoken and written English to advise on all aspects of commercial law in Uzbeckistan and the legal systems of the other Central Asian Republics in general. The successful candidate must be at least five years qualified in Uzbeckistan, have previous experience in advising foreign investors in Uzbeckistan, be computer-literate in Russian and English and be able to travel to Central Asia as required. He/she will act as liaison officer with local law consultants on projects in the Central Asian region of the former USSR.
Please write with CV to: Elena Kirillova, McKenna & Co, Mitre House, 160 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4DD. Closing date for applications: 10th January 1994.
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THE CHAMBERS OF ALASTAIR WILSON QC
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are moving to
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London WC2A 3UP
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on
Wednesday 22nd December 1993
and are pleased to announce that
RORY SULLIVAN
joined Chambers on 4 October 1993
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End-of-term party has confounded its critics

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MUNICH

THE Grand Slam Cup, the closing event of the tennis year, is becoming established. Even before Petr Korda had lent it credibility, and been paid $1,625,000 (about £1,098,00) for his enduring work in the semi-finals and final at the weekend, the organisers had received indirect recognition from an unexpected source.

Mark Miles, chief executive of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), suggested during a midweek meeting that the two end-of-season extravaganzas, the ATP world championship in Frankfurt and the Grand Slam Cup here, should be merged. Although the proposal is inherently flawed, the initiative was significant.

"I feel very honoured by this approach because it seems to confirm the high value of this tournament," Dr Axel Meyer-Wolden, the Grand Slam Cup promoter, said: "It has been my baby and it has come of age." Although it is only four years old, there is some evidence to back his claim.

The event gains a wider audience (it is televised in 200 countries) and sponsors have already agreed to fund the annual prize-money of $6 million, in Germany but not necessarily in Munich, until at least 1999. Moreover, the players are not the only beneficiaries.

Since its inception, $2 million has been donated each year to the Grand Slam development fund. As well as financing satellite circuits, the money has been used to support the growth of wheelchair tennis and to care for children with cancer. Pete Sampras, the 1990 winner, gave $250,000 for a home to be built in Los Angeles for sufferers of cerebral palsy.

Nevertheless, can there be moral justification for offering excessive wealth to players, many of whom are millionaires? Meyer-Wolden concedes that he took advantage of a gap in the market that was opened by political warfare between two factions.

The season closed with the Masters until the ATP broke away three years ago and formed its own tour and concluding championship. The field embraces the eight players with the most ranking points during the year. The International Tennis Federation and the Grand Slams responded to being excluded by creating an equally lavish end-of-term party.

As long as there is a demand, and the packed halls in Frankfurt and Munich indicated that there is, the two tournaments will continue. As Brian Tobin, the president of the ITF, put it, "I wonder how to tell the top men players that one $6 million event is better than two $6 million events."

And the women, too? For two years the Women's Tennis Association has prevaricated over an invitation to compete in the Grand Slam Cup. As the Australian, French and US Opens and Wimbledon are joint tournaments, the idea would be more logical than merging the fundamentally different pair of men's galas.

Once the reconstruction of the women's organisational body has been completed, the combined project is to be re-examined. "That is the long-term objective," Tobin confirmed. "They have agreed that the first priority for an event outside the tour would be a Grand Slam Cup for women, if and when we can fit that into the calendar."

December was the only month available for the men (the ATP was scarcely likely to allow it to disrupt and overshadow the tour) and the timing is less than ideal. Jim Courier and Andrei Medvedev this year joined those who have turned down the financial inducement.

Sampras, the world's No 1, did turn up and paid the price for practising only his golf swing for a fortnight. On Saturday night, having lost 13-11 in the fifth set, he was treated for dehydration. Korda recovered and, within 24 hours, beat the world's No 2, Michael Stich, as well.

Korda's spectacular demonstration of durability and his flashes of brilliance ultimately transformed the Grand Slam Cup. It started with a procession of entrants who did not appear to care about losing and ended with the most improbable of worthy winners. With the last shot of the year, he claimed his first title of 1993.



Stich: beaten finalist

Lomas assumes leading role

Richard Eaton looks at England's chances of achieving a significant advance on two fronts in European table tennis

MARC ASPLAND



Lomas, looking to help England to new heights in the European league tonight

Two weeks in China last summer has helped to make Lisa Lomas, the European silver medal-winner, a central figure in what could be England's best day in European table tennis. If they beat France in St Georges des Coteaux this evening, they will reach the final of the women's European league for the first time, an achievement for which Lomas can take much credit.

If the England men can beat Belgium in Liège at about the same time in the first leg of their semi-final, this really will be a night to remember, perhaps the best since 1981, when the team finished runners-up to Hungary in the then combined men's and women's league.

Victory for the women tonight will hand them a two-leg final against Germany or Romania in February. If the men are successful after their second leg in February, they too will play a two-leg final against either Germany or Sweden, the world champions and title-holders, in March.

The women, having upset Sweden and Hungary, are favoured to reach the final, and that is in part a testimony to Lomas who endured a technically illuminating but gastromically uncomfortable fortnight in Guangzhou (formerly Canton).

Lomas, 26, who is sometimes known as the Dunstable defender, explained: "I played against chop-blockers whom we don't get here, choppers, left-handed penholders, right-handed penholders playing with pimples, and a whole range of styles." Lomas's China experience has helped make her more adaptable and much more successfully aggressive.

Pressure training there involved 100-120 balls a minute fired at her: two balls a second to hit and counter-hit. Though the method was not new — she and her sister, Jackie Bellinger, claim the world speed-hitting record of 173 a minute — the prolonged and varied Chinese training produced effects that were different.

"None of it was easy but it's helped make me a better attacker," Lomas said. "I couldn't eat much of the food and survived mostly on noodles and rice."

Soon afterwards, Lomas overcame the two leading Swedes, Asa Svensson and Marie Svensson, experts against defence, and then almost reversed the result of the European women's singles final by getting within two points of beating Bettine Vriesekoop, of Holland. Last month she produced a career-best performance to beat the world No. 18, from Hungary, Csilla Batorfi, who is the highest-ranked woman in Europe.

Previously Lomas's attack had been limited to backhand hits and smashes on both wings if the ball popped up after her tenacious spells of chop-and-float rallying. She dealt with Batorfi's 15-foot high toss serve and ferocious forehand topspin loop by mixing in trenchant forehand hits and occasional counter-loops from half-distance. On the backhand she had usually hit with the smooth pimples-in rubber, but now she served with the backhand and followed up with destructive backhand hits from the long-pimpled side of her bat.

Such variety should be sufficient for Lomas to win two singles matches against a French squad of Emmanuelle Coubat, Agnes Le Lannic, Sylvie Plaisant and Anne Boileau. She will be supported by Alison Gordon and Andrea Holt, while 500 miles away another dazzling mixer of backspin and topspin, Chen Xinhua, will be leading England's men.

The contest between Chen, the former world cup-winner, and Jean-Michel Saive, the world No 2, should be the highlight of the evening. England's No 1 should get excellent support from Carl Prean, Matthew Syed and Alan Cooke. However, the men's European league contains most of the world's best singles players and the Belgian squad, which contains the Austrian Open champion, Thierry Cabrera, will be much more difficult to break down than the French.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Warrington await acid test in cup

WARRINGTON are the surprise packet of the season, but the acid test will come on Saturday against the holders in the televised quarter-final of rugby league's Regal Trophy (Christopher Irvine writes). Although not quite at full force yet, Wigan still set the standard by which the rest measure themselves. The outstanding tie of the draw made yesterday draw pits the leaders of the Stones Bitter championship against a Wigan side trailing them by two points. Wigan possess a definite edge in cup meetings against Warrington, most notably having beaten them in the 1987 trophy final.

London Crusaders are guaranteed a plum tie at the Copthall Stadium, Barnet, and a timely boost to their bank balance, whether their opponents are Bradford Northern or Halifax, third and fourth place, respectively, in the first division. They will attempt to beat the snow tomorrow.

QUARTER-FINAL DRAW: Warrington v Wigan (Dec 19); Batley or Salford v Hull; Castleford or Leigh v Carlisle; London Crusaders v Bradford Northern or Halifax. Other ties to be played on December 19

Plunging into 1994

SWIMMING: Five British men are to start their 1994 season at the earliest possible opportunity, by competing on the morning of January 1 at the opening session of the World Cup series in Hong Kong (Craig Lord writes). Among the small squad are Nick Gillingham and Mark Foster, hoping to capitalise on their world short-course titles by collecting some of the $350,000 (£235,000) in prize-money that the seven-round World Cup is offering. Foster holds the World Cup 50 metres freestyle title but organisers have limited the format to categories this year, so he will have to excel at 100 metres as well to win the sprint freestyle category.

TEAM: M Foster (Barnet Copthall), N Gillingham (Birmingham), M Harris (Waltham Forest), P Palmer (Lincoln), A Ruckwood (Birmingham). Coach: I Turner (Lincoln). World Cup meetings: Jan 1-2: Hong Kong; 6-8: Peking. Mar 12-13: Desenzano (It); 15-16: Malmo (Swe); 19-20: Gelsenkirchen (Ger); 22-23: Sheffield; 26-27: Paris.

Mayer breaks through

SKIING: Christian Mayer, of Austria, produced a sparkling second leg to win the giant slalom at Val d'Isère yesterday. It was his first World Cup success in a race in which the favourites failed to shine. Mayer, 21, fourth after the first run, was the only skier to break 2½ minutes, finishing in 2min 29.96sec. Tobias Barnerssoi, of Germany, who led after the first leg, was second, 0.20sec behind, with Michael von Gruenigen, of Switzerland, third. Mayer's compatriot, Guther Mader, the overall World Cup leader, hit a gate in his second run and went off the course.

Thorne overhauled

SNOOKER: Ronnie O'Sullivan had to display the composure he showed while winning the United Kingdom championship two weeks ago to get the better of Willie Thorne by 5-4 in the first round of European Open in Antwerp yesterday. O'Sullivan was down 3-1 and 4-3 and Thorne, the world No 7, led 55-4 in the deciding frame before he missed a difficult red. O'Sullivan, who seized his chance and cleared to the pink with a break of 76, will now meet Ken Higgins, an 18-year-old Scot who showed impressive form while beating Terry Griffiths 5-2.

Cricketers honoured

AWARDS: The England women's cricket team added the 1993 sports team of the year award to the World Cup it won last summer. Jo Chamberlain and her team-mates finished top of the poll held by the Sports Writers' Association and received their award in London last night. Second place went to Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, who followed up their 1992 Olympic triumph by winning the coxless pairs title at the world rowing championships. Linford Christie collected the award as sportsman of the year and Sally Gunnell picked up the women's trophy.

Cup test for Guildford

BASKETBALL: Guildford Kings face a tricky National Cup visit to Leicester City Riders following the draw for the quarter-finals yesterday. Guildford, who entertain Real Madrid in a European championship semi-final pool game at the Spectrum Arena on Thursday, have seen their European and Budweiser League ambitions fade, and the domestic knock-out competition — which they won last season — represents their only realistic hope of returning to Europe next season. Worthing Bears, defeated by Guildford in the final last year, must also travel, to Chester Jets.

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday December 18 unless stated

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 Blackburn v Man City
X Coventry v Oldham
2 Everton v Newcastle
1 Ipswich v Norwich
X Sheff Wed v West Ham
1 Swindon v South'pton
1 Tottenham v Liverpool
1 Wimbledon v Sheff Utd
Not on coupons: Leeds v Arsenal; Man Utd v A Villa (Sunday). QPR v Chelsea (Monday)

FIRST DIVISION
X Birmingham v Charlton
1 Bolton v Grimsby
2 Bristol C v Wolves
X Middlesbro v Notts C
1 Portsmouth v Oxford
Not on coupons: Millwall v Stoke (Sunday); Notm For v S'end (Sunday). Peterboro v Leics (Sunday). S'land v Derby. Tranmere v C Palace (Sunday). Watford v Luton (Sunday). WBA v Barnsley (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION
X Bournem'th v Bristol R
1 Brighton v Bradford
2 Exeter v Brentford
1 Hull v Barnet
1 Leyton O v Cardiff
X Port Vale v Burnley
1 Reading v Hudd'field
X Swansea v York
Not on coupons: B'pool v C'bridge (Sunday). Fulham v H'pool (Friday). Roth'm v Wrexham (Friday); Stockport v Plymouth (Friday)

THIRD DIVISION
2 Chest'field v Gillingham
2 North'pton v Bury
1 Rochdale v Darlington
1 Scarborough v Hereford
1 Scunthorpe v Wigan
X Torquay v Walsall
1 Wycombe v Carlisle
Not on coupons: Crewe v Preston (Friday). Doncaster v Chester (Friday). Shrewsbury v Mansfield (Friday)

GM VAUXHALL CONF
1 Bath v Northwich
1 B'grove v Stalybridge
X Gateshead v Woking
1 Kettering v Welling
1 Merthyr v Macclesf'ld
1 Southport v Kid'minster
2 Stafford v Slough
2 Telford v Dag'ham & R
1 Witton v Altrincham

BEAZER HOMES LGE
X Bashley v Gresley
1 Cambridge C v Crawley
2 Corby v Trowbridge
2 Dorchester v Chelmsford
1 Carshalton v Hendon
1 Dorking v Grays
X Kingstonian v Chesham
1 Wivenhoe v Yeading
2 Wokingham v Sutton Utd

SCOTTISH PREMIER
1 Aberdeen v Kilmarnock
1 Celtic v Hibernian
2 Dundee v Motherwell
1 Hearts v Raith
2 Partick v Dundee Utd
X St Johnstone v Rangers

SCOTTISH FIRST
1 Airdrie v Clyde
X Ayr v Falkirk
1 Dumbarton v Brechin
1 Dunf'mline v St Mirren
1 Hamilton v Clydenbank
2 Morton v Stirling

SCOTTISH SECOND
Not on coupons: Alloa v Albion, E Fife v Berwick, E Stirling v S'muir, Forfar v Queen's Park, M'bank v C'beath, Montrose v Stranr. Q of the Sth v Arbroath

TREBLE CHANCE: Coventry, Sheffield Wednesday, Birmingham, Middlesbrough, Bournemouth, Port Vale, Swansea, Torquay, Gateshead, Bashley, St Johnstone, Ayr
BEST DRAWS: Birmingham, Middlesbrough, Swansea, Gateshead, Bashley
AWAYS: Newcastle, Wolves, Brentford, Bury, Dagenham.
HOMES: Blackburn, Swindon, Bolton, Hull, Reading, Scarborough, Bromsgrove, Merthyr, Carshalton, Dorking, Airdrie, Dumbarton
FIXED ODDS: Homes: Swindon, Bolton, Reading, Carshalton, Airdrie Aways: Newcastle, Wolverhampton Wanderers, Bury Draws: Birmingham, Middlesbrough, Swansea.

Monday December 27 unless stated

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 A Villa v Man City
2 Ipswich v West Ham
1 QPR v Oldham
2 South'pton v Chelsea
X Swindon v Arsenal
1 Tottenham v Norwich
Not on coupons: Everton v Sheffield Wednesday

FIRST DIVISION
X Barnsley v Derby
1 Bolton v Sunderland
2 Grimsby v Notts Co
1 Leicester v Watford
1 Millwall v Portsmouth
1 Notm F v Middlesbro
2 Oxford v C Palace
1 Peterboro v Luton
1 Southend v Charlton
1 Tranmere v Wolves
1 West Brom v Bristol C
Not on coupons: Stoke v Birmingham (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION
2 Bourn'th v Brentford
1 Bradford v Rotherham
1 Bristol R v Reading
X Burnley v Wrexham
V Cardiff v Swansea
2 Fulham v Port Vale
X Hartlepool v Hudd'field
1 Leyton O v Cambridge
1 Stockport v Blackpool
X York v Hull
Not on coupons: Brighton v Barnet

THIRD DIVISION
1 Chest'field v Doncaster
X Colchester v Mansfield
1 Crewe v Wigan
2 Darlington v Carlisle
1 Gillingham v North'pton
2 Hereford v Shrewsbury
1 Lincoln v Scunthorpe
2 Preston v Chester
1 Torquay v Wycombe
X Walsall v Bury

NORTHERN PREMIER
1 Knowsley v Fleetwood
1 Marine v Colwyn Bay
1 Morecambe v Barrow
X Winsford v Leek

SCOTTISH PREMIER
1 Dundee Utd v Aberdeen
1 Hibernian v Partick
1 Kilmarnock v Dundee
X Motherwell v Celtic
X Raith v St Johnstone
1 Rangers v Hearts

SCOTTISH FIRST
2 Brechin v Hamilton
1 Clyde v Morton
2 Clydebank v Ayr
1 Falkirk v Dunf'mline
X St Mirren v Airdrie
1 Stirling v Dumbarton

SCOTTISH SECOND
1 Albion v Montrose
2 Arbroath v East Fife
1 Berwick v Q of Sth
2 Cowdenb'th v Forfar
2 Queen's Pk v Alloa
Not on coupons: Stenh'muir v Meadowbank, Stranraer v East Stirling

TREBLE CHANCE: Swindon, Barnsley, Southend, Burnley, Hartlepool, York, Colchester, Walsall, Winsford, Motherwell, Raith, St Mirren
BEST DRAWS: Barnsley Hartlepool Colchester, Winsford, Raith

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Leicester City West Bromwich Albion, Crewe Alexandra, Knowsley, Kilmarnock, Aways: Chelsea, Port Vale, Hamilton Academical Draws: Barnsley, Hartlepool United, Winsford United

Saturday January 1

FA PREMIERSHIP
X A Villa v Blackburn
2 Everton v West Ham
2 Ipswich v Liverpool
X Man Utd v Leeds
1 Newcastle v Man City
2 QPR v Sheff Wed
1 Sheff Utd v Oldham
X South'pton v Norwich
1 Swindon v Chelsea
1 Tottenham v Coventry
1 Wimbledon v Arsenal

FIRST DIVISION
2 Barnsley v Portsmouth
1 Bolton v Notts Co
X Grimsby v Bristol C
1 Leicester v Sunderland
1 Millwall v C Palace
1 Notm F v Charlton
X Oxford v Middlesbrough
2 Peterborough v Wolves
1 Southend v Birmingham
X Stoke v Derby
1 Tranmere v Watford
1 West Brom v Luton

SECOND DIVISION
2 Bourn'th v Plymouth
2 Bradford v Wrexham
1 Brighton v Cambridge
1 Bristol R v Swansea
1 Burnley v Blackpool
2 Cardiff v Reading
1 Exeter v Hull
2 Fulham v Brentford
1 Hartlepool v Rotherham
1 Leyton O v Hudd'field
2 York v Port Vale
Not on coupons: Stockport v Barnet

THIRD DIVISION
X Chest'field v Shrewsbury
2 Colchester v Chester
1 Crewe v Doncaster
1 Darlington v Wigan
2 Gillingham v Bury
X Hereford v Carlisle
1 Lincoln v Scarborough
X Preston v Scunthorpe
1 Rochdale v Northton
1 Torquay v Mansfield
1 Walsall v Wycombe

NORTHERN PREMIER
X Accrington v Emley
1 Barrow v Whitley Bay
1 Boston v Gainsboro
2 Chorley v Fleetwood

SCOTTISH PREMIER
1 Celtic v Rangers
X Dundee v Aberdeen
2 Hearts v Hibernian
1 Kilmarnock v Motherwell
1 Raith v Partick
2 St Johnstone v Dundee Utd

SCOTTISH FIRST
1 Airdrie v Hamilton
X Brechin v Dunf'mline
X Clyde v Ayr
Not on coupons: Dumbarton v Clydebk, Falkirk v Stirling, St Mirren v Morton

SCOTTISH SECOND: Not on coupons. Berwick v M'bank, E Fife v C'beath, E Stirling v Alloa, Forfar v Arbroath, Queen's Park v Albion, S'muir v Montrose, Stranraer v Queen of the South

TREBLE CHANCE: Aston Villa, Manchester United, Southampton, Grimsby, Oxford, Stoke, Chesterfield, Hereford, Accrington, Dundee, Brechin Clyde
BEST DRAWS: Southampton, Grimsby, Stoke, Chesterfield, Accrington
AWAYS: Liverpool, Portsmouth, Wolves, Plymouth, Chester
HOMES: Newcastle, Tottenham, Bolton, Southend, Tranmere, Burnley, Hartlepool, Crewe, Darlington, Rochdale, Boston, Celtic

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Newcastle, Tottenham Trannmere, Burnley, Crewe Aways: Portsmouth, Wolves, Chester Draws: Southampton, Stoke, Chesterfield

☐ Vince Wright

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

CIRCUMLOCUTION OFFICE
(c) Dickens's satirical name for the Civil Service, which he fiercely attacks in *Little Dorrit*, having been enraged by the bureaucratic muddle and incompetence responsible for many catastrophes during the Crimean War: "No public business of any kind could possibly be done at any time without the acquiescence of the Circumlocution Office." Its proceedings exemplify the negative principle of "How Not To Do It", ie how to avoid taking any action.

MRS LUPIN
(b) Landlady of the Wiltshire village inn the Blue Dragon in *Martin Chuzzlewit*, "broad, buxom, comfortable, and good-looking"; a simple soul, much impressed by Mr Pecksniff's high moral line until her view of him is modified by his treatment of Tom Pinch and his designs on Mary Graham. She eventually marries Mark Tapley.

JEREMIAH CRUNCHER
(b) Jeremiah Cruncher, odd-job-man and messenger for Tellson's Bank in *A Tale of Two Cities*: "He had eyes with no depth in the colour and much too near together, a sinister expression, stiff black hair growing downhill almost to his broad, blunt nose." He is also secretly a resurrection man, but after visiting Paris during the French Revolution he sickens of the occupation, and decides to give it up.

LAWRENCE BOYTHORN
(a) Old friend of Mr Jarndyce in *Bleak House*, and a country neighbour of Sir Lester Dedlock's, with whom he keeps up a tremendous feud over rights of way. A hearty, booming-voiced man given to extremes of speech and behaviour, but beneath the extravagance a gentle, kind-hearted man. His character is based on that of Dickens's friend, Walter Savage Landor.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Nf4+ Kxe4 2 Rf3 mate.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

FA Cup
Second round replays
Exeter v Leyton Orient (7.45)
Scunthorpe v Walsall (7.30)
Endsleigh Insurance League
Third division
Lincoln v Colchester (7.30)
Coca-Cola Cup
Fourth round replay
Wimbledon v Liverpool (8.0)
Autoglass Trophy
Second round
Wycombe v Cardiff (7.45)
GM Vauxhall Conference
Telford v Stafford (7.45)
Drinkwise Cup
Quarter-finals
Halifax v Macclesfield (7.30)
Welling v Bromsgrove (7.45)
Scottish League
Premier division
Aberdeen v Partick (7.30)
First division
Dunfermline v Ayr (7.30)

FA VASE: Third round. Pelsall Villa v Halstead Town (7.30)
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE (7.30): Premier division: Buxton v Leek; Chorley v Emley. First division Cup: Farsley Celtic v Gretna. Harrogate v Gedd.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE (7.30) Premier division: Gloucester v Stringbourne (7.45). Dr Martens Cup: Third round. Sudbury v Gravesend and Northfleet. Waterlooville v Dorchester
DIADORA LEAGUE (7.30) Premier division: Hayes v Bromley First division: Wembley v Barking. Second division: Aldershot Town v Leatherhead (7.45) Third division: Epsom and Ewell v Hornchurch (7.45) Cup: Third round: Basingstoke v Marlow, Bognor Regis v Enfield; Saffron Walden v Maidenhead, Staines v St Albans.
Carlsberg Cup: First round: Berkhamsted v Tooting, Dulwich v Tooting and Mitcham
Carlsberg Trophy: Flackwell Heath v Southall
PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0) First division: Derby v Leeds; Notts County v Manchester United; Sheff United v Blackburn Second division: Bradford v Stoke; Grimsby v Blackpool, Oldham v Tranmere
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Luton (2.0); QPR vBrighton (7.0, at Harrow Borough), Watford v Chelsea (7.30); West Ham v Crystal Palace (2.0)
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Doncaster v Manchester City (7.30).
SCOTTISH SECOND: Not on coupons. Berwick v M'bank; E Fife v C'beath; E Stirling v Alloa; Forfar v Arbroath; Queen's Park v Albion; S'muir v Montrose, Stranraer v Queen of the South

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy
Third round
Batley v Salford
Bradford v Halifax (7.45)
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division. Postponed: Dewsbury v Doncaster

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Haverfordwest v Narberth

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Postponed: Mansfield v Burnley
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Millwall 2 Norwich 1. League Cup: Bournemouth 2 Plymouth 1.
ITALIAN LEAGUE: Cagliari 0 Parma 4
SPAIN: Athletic Bilbao 3 Atlético Madrid 2
BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: First leg: Vitoria 0 Palmeiras 1.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Alleyns Dulwich 1 Latymer Upper 0; British Goa English Trophy, fourth round, replay: Derby 1 Bolton 0. Manchester Cup: Bury 3 Wigan 1
Northern Merit Trophy: Huddersfield 0 Blackburn 3. West Midlands League: Erdington and Saltley 1 Cannock 4, Nuneaton 4 Solihull 1, Kings Norton 6 Birmingham 0, Wolverhampton 0 Walsall 1; Halesowen and Stourbridge 4 Warley 2. Midlands Divisional Trophy, first round: Burton 2 Newcastle 0. Yorkshire Trophy: Bradford 3 Longbaugh 1, Leeds 6 York 1; Hull 1 Scarborough 4

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Orlando 103 Portland 88; LA Clippers 112 Sacramento 102, Golden State 100 LA Lakers 97
NATIONAL CUP, third round: Brixton Topcats 86 (Olukaton 24) Manchester Giants 110 (Hillman 27, Fite 27, Gordon 20)

BOXING

WBC FLYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP: Kyoto, Japan: Yuri Arbachakov (Russ, holder) bt Chu Nam-Hoon (S Kor), pts

BOWLS

EGHAM TROPHY: Second round: South Tyneside 88 Hartlepool 67, Darlington 83 Sunderland 84; Cumbria 79 Copeland 69, Addlethorpe 50 South Forest 70; Newark 66 Barwell 95, Grantham 71 Nottingham 103; Northampton 78 Cambridge Christerton 87, St Neots 88 City of Ely 82, Cambridge and County 62 Wisbech 101, Ipswich 86 North Walsham 56, Wymondham Doll 81 County Arts 82, Norfolk and Norwich 75 Roundwood 73, Diss 60 Beccles 96, Slade 74 Handy Cross 77, Desborough 87 Stevenage 76; Herts 83 Oxford City and County 83, Cherwell 119 Gosling 62; Birmingham 57 Rugby 91; Benfleet 86 Cotswold 62, Richmond 93 Lowreham 83, Temple 55 Sutton 99, King George Field 78 Croydon 83, West Berks 83 Longmeadow 90 Camberley 68 Whiteknights 91; Egham 105 Rivermead 77; Wey Valley 78 Rushmoor 68, Dartford Stone Lodge 123 Stour 57, Folkestone 70 Royal Tunbridge Wells 77, Angel 80 Sevenoaks 67; Eastbourne 93 Gratton 71; Worthing 79 Adur 80, Worthing Pavilion 53 Preston 122, Stour Vale 55 East Dorset 98 Solent 82 Isle of Wight 64, Alresford 76 Havant 61, Bitton Cribbsphone 86 Woodspring 76, Brimstor 77 Clevedon 82, Teignbridge 104 Bodmin 40; Torbay 88 Cannington 75, Plymouth Civil Service 61 West Cornwall 83, Axminster 66 Plymouth Mayflower 115

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Tasmania 328 and 308-6 dec (R T Ponting 66, D F Hills 59, C Howard 5-112); Victoria 329-3 dec (D M Jones 158 not out, B Hodge 106) and 267-6 (D J Ramshaw 53, Jones 50) Match drawn

GOLF

DORADO BEACH, Puerto Rico: US Senior Tour championship: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 198: S Hobday (SA) 64, 66, 67, 201: R Floyd 71, 64, 66; I Gabert 66, 69, 69, 202: D Stockton 68, 66, 70 203: B Murphy 68, 71, 66.
SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, N Faldo (Eng) 21.57pts; 2, G Norman (Aus) 19.45, 3, B Langer (Ger) 17.11; 4, N Price (Zim) 15.88, 5, P Azinger (US) 14.87; 6, F Couples (US) 14.81; 7, I Woosnam (Wales) 11.72; 8, T Kite (US) 10.38; 9, D Love III (US) 9.91, 10, C Pavin (US) 9.64

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE
First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hounslow	9	7	1	1	28	5	22
Havant	9	6	2	1	20	10	20
Reading	10	6	1	3	19	13	19
Teddington	10	5	3	2	19	13	18
East Grinstead	10	5	3	2	19	13	18
Southgate	8	5	2	1	19	6	17
O Loughtonians	8	4	4	0	23	10	16
Stourport	10	5	1	4	14	18	16
Cannock	10	3	6	1	15	12	15
Indian Gym	10	2	4	4	11	13	10
Bournville	10	3	1	6	13	16	10
Finsbrands	9	2	3	4	6	16	9
St Albans	9	3	0	6	8	24	9
Trojans	10	2	2	6	17	22	8
Slough	10	2	2	6	7	19	8
Wellen	9	2	2	5	7	20	8
Canterbury	8	1	3	4	8	19	6
Bromley	9	1	0	8	6	18	3

Second division

Surbiton	10	9	1	0	32	7	28
Guildford	10	8	1	1	33	15	25
Barford Tigers	10	6	2	2	26	14	20
Oxford Univ	10	5	2	3	26	17	17
Isca	10	5	2	3	17	16	17
Richmond	10	5	2	3	14	16	17
Edgbaston	10	5	2	3	18	21	17
Brooklands	10	4	3	3	19	16	16
Beeston	10	3	3	4	18	20	12
Neston	9	3	2	4	14	15	11
Harleston Marg	9	3	2	4	16	20	11
Gloucester City	10	3	1	6	16	15	10
Wemrington	9	3	1	5	11	16	10
Sheffield	10	3	1	6	14	19	10
Cambridge City	10	2	1	7	16	29	7
Doncaster	9	1	2	4	14	18	7
Cheltenham	9	2	1	7	9	22	7
Harborne	10	1	3	6	11	28	6

SHOOTING

ALDERSLEY: Great Britain air gun squad trials: Air pistol: Men: 1, N Freeland 1,727. 2, M Gault 1,724; 3, S Haynes 1721: Women: 1, C Page 1,151. 2, L Elsworth 1,122; 3, C Benest 1,117. Air rifle: Men: 1, N Wallace 594 1, 2, C Hector 590 8, 3, A Rawlet 583.2: Women: 1, H Jones 487.2 2, D Lawrence 477 4, 3, T Lunn 476.

SKIING

VAL D'ISÈRE: Men's World Cup: Giant slalom: 1, C Mayer (Austria) 2min 29.96sec. 2, T Biemerssoi (Ger) 2.30.16; 3, M Von Gruengen (Swiss) 2.30.22; 4, F Piccard (Fr) 2.30.36; 5, J Einar Thorsen (Nor) 2.30.32; 6, H Knaus (Austria) 2.30.33, 7, K-A Aamodt (Nor) 2.30.52; 8, G Koenigsrainer (It) 2.30 67, 9, B Gstrein (Austria) 2.30 72. 10, S Locher (Swiz) 2.31.09 Standings (after three races): 1, Piccard 200, 2, Aamodt 156; 3, G Mader (Austria) 145 Overall World Cup standings (after six races): 1, Aamodt 321; 2, Mader 316; 3, Piccard 229; 4, A Tomba (It) 194, 5, T Stangassenger (Austria) 190; 6, B Gstrein (Austria) 160.

SNOOKER

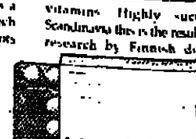
ANTWERP: Humo European Open: First round: D Taylor (N Ire) bt T Knowles (Eng) 5-1; K Doherty (Ire) bt D Clarke (Eng) 5-1; R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt W Thorne (Eng) 5-4, J Higgins (Scot) bt T Griffiths (Wales) 5-2.
KARACHI: World amateur championship: Quarter-final qualifiers: P Chaiarreskun (Thai) bt Chan Kwok Ming (HK) 5-3, R Fabre (Holl) bt M Colquitt (Engl) 5-4, A Tan (Sing) bt P Nitsud (Malta) 5-3, G Dott (Scot) bt R Jones (Wales) 5-2; P Wallace (Ire) bt B Mooro (NZ) 5-1, K Erwin (N Ire) bt M Fenton (Wales) 5-4, P Reeve (Eng) bt Guo Hua (China) 5-4; C Thratanepradit (Thai) bt Ng Ann Seng (Malaysia) 5-1.

SQUASH

BOMBAY: International challenge: Group A: R Eyles (Aus) bt P Whitlock (Eng) 15-12, 11-15, 15-13, 8-15, 15-11, B Martin (Aus) bt S Elopuro (Fin) 12-15, 15-11, 15-12, 15-4 Group B: S Parke (Eng) bt C Walker (Eng) 15-8, 15-5, 15-13

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Young Hustler can boost King George credentials at Ascot

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

ONE trainer hoping to capitalise on Jodami's confirmed defection from the Tripleprint King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on December 27 is Nigel Twiston-Davies.

The Gloucestershire-based handler was a satisfied man after he watched Young Hustler rebound from a disappointing seasonal debut in October to chase home Fragrant Dawn in the Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham on Saturday.

Last season taught us nothing if not that Young Hustler thrives on his racing. Assuming the six-year-old fully recovers from his exertions of three days ago, Twiston-Davies will allow his charge to reinforce his King George credentials in the Betterware Cup Handicap Chase over an extended three miles at Ascot on Saturday.

A virus has claimed the Hennessy winner, Cogent, whose target this was, but the race is deserving of its status as the centrepiece of an attractive card. Another Ascot entry bound for the King George is top-weight Zeta's Lad, who, along with Very Very Ordinary, will be bidding to win back some of sponsor Andrew Cohen's money.

But all eyes will be on Young Hustler. "I was very pleased with him at Cheltenham," Twiston-Davies said yesterday. "But we will look him over thoroughly before finalising our plans."

Hills, not surprisingly, quote Young Hustler a clear favourite at 5-2, followed by 9-2 Zeta's Lad, 5-1 Gambling Royal, 13-2 Capability Brown, 7-1 Very Very Ordinary, 8-1 Fighting Words, 10-1 Latent Talent, 14-1 Mister Ed and Windy Ways, and 25-1 Flashthecash.

Of the John Upson-trained pair, stable jockey Robbie Supple will ride Very Very Ordinary, a last-fence faller in the Haydock race won by Gambling Royal last week, while Zeta's Lad will be the mount of the 7lb claiming amateur, Tom Byrne. Carl Llewellyn stands by for Young Hustler.

On the King George front, Corals opened exchanges yesterday with The Fellow at the head of their book. Trained by Francois Doumen, the eight-year-old is a 2-1 chance, after which Coral bet: 3-1 Barton Bank, 4-1 Bradbury Star, 7-1 Black Humour and 8-1 Travado. Young Hustler is a 10-1 shot.

Twiston-Davies also intends to send Sweet Duke to Ascot for the Long Walk Hurdle over three miles, one and a half furlongs on Saturday, when the six-year-old renews his rivalry with Triple Witching.

Triple Witching mastered Sweet Duke by six lengths at Newbury on Hennessy day but the Twiston-Davies recruit will be 7lb better off this time. The third and fourth in that race, Burgoyne and Deb's Ball, are among the 11 declared, as is the Irish-trained Stayers' Hurdle winner, Shuil Ar Aghaidh.

David Nicholson intends to mount another strong assault on the big Saturday prizes. Gambling Royal and Triple Witching aside, Nicholson has earmarked Baydon Star, unbeaten over fences, for the Noel Novices' Chase over a trip just short of 2½ miles.

In addition, Wonder Man, withdrawn last Saturday on account of the fast ground at Cheltenham, should have underfoot conditions more to his liking in the Frogmore Chase after recent heavy rain.

Meanwhile, William Hill announced yesterday that they are to sponsor awards for this season's Champion National Hunt jockey and the champion Flat jockey in 1994, both in conjunction with the Jockeys' Association. The awards have been endorsed by the British Horseracing Board.

The National Hunt award runs until the season's close in June, but the Flat award will embrace both turf and all-weather fixtures from January 1 to December 31 next year. Hills have already opened a book on the 1994 Flat championship. They bet: Evens Pat Eddery, the reigning champion, 4-1 Kevin Darley and Frankie Dettori, and 9-2 Michael Roberts.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ANNIO CHILONE (2.15 Folkestone)
Next best: Prize Match (1.15 Folkestone)

GERRY CRANHAM



Sir Thomas Pilkington, right, with Tristram Ricketts, chief executive of the British Horseracing Board

Pilkington to be senior steward

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

SIR Thomas Pilkington is to succeed Lord Hartington as senior steward of the Jockey Club next July. The appointment was confirmed at a meeting of the Jockey Club yesterday where annual elections resulted in six new members being elected to the club. A notable feature of the new intake is their relatively young age.

Sir Thomas, chairman of Newmarket Racecourses Trust since 1988, will serve as senior steward for four years. He takes over at a sensitive time in the club's long history, following the establishment of the British Horseracing Board.

Aged 59, Sir Thomas is chairman of Thos and James Harrison, a shipping company with offices in Liverpool and London, as well as being deputy chairman of Cluff Oil. He is a keen racegoer and has horses in training with John Dunlop, Michael Bell and Alec Stewart.

Charles Wilson, a former editor of *The Times*, is among the list of new members elected to the Jockey Club. He is managing director of Mirror Group Newspapers, whose titles include *The Sporting Life*.

The other new members are:

☐ Philip Blacker, who won the Whitbread Gold Cup and Triumph Hurdle as a jockey. He is a highly-acclaimed equine sculptor.

☐ David Gibson, owner of Barleythorpe Stud and president of the Thoroughbred Breeders Association. He is a director of the National Stud.

☐ Joseph Newton, whose success as an amateur jockey included winning the Liverpool Foxhunters and the Horse and Hound Cup at Stratford. A keen point-to-point supporter, he has been a steward at Leicester since 1986.

☐ Julian Richmond-Watson, chairman of Nottingham racecourse since November and owner of Wakefield Lodge Stud, has owned Flat horses for 20 years, mostly with Guy Harwood.

☐ John Rose, a partner with his father in Kilvington Stud, is a steward at Southwell and Doncaster. He is also chairman of Market Rasen.

Hampton guides Giants to place in play-offs

BY ROBERT KIRLEY

RODNEY Hampton gained a career-high 173 yards on Sunday as the New York Giants beat the Indianapolis Colts 20-6 to become the first National Football League team to gain a play-off position.

New York continued to hold first place in their division by improving their record to ten wins and three defeats. The victory on Sunday, combined with a defeat for Chicago, means the Giants will at least be a wild-card team in January. They have not been in the play-offs since they won the Super Bowl nearly three years ago.

Indianapolis, meanwhile, absorbed their ninth defeat in 13 games and extended their touchdown drought to 17 quarters. They have scored only 15 points in their last three games and 24 in their last four.

Hampton rushed 33 times for his total, including 87 yards on the Giants' first two possessions, both of which yielded touchdowns. His fourth 100-yard rushing effort of the season was the second since he returned from a knee injury five games ago.

Hampton scored the first touchdown of the game on a one-yard run and Phil Simms connected with Chris Calloway on a 17-yard throw that gave the Giants a 13-0 lead in the second quarter.

Dean Biasucci kicked field goals of 21 and 26 yards to nudge the Colts to a 13-6 half-time deficit and the only touchdown after the interval was Jarrod Bunch's two-yard run early in the fourth quarter.

Dan Reeves, the former Denver coach, is in his first season with the Giants. "If I was told at the beginning of the season we would be the first team to clinch a play-off spot, I would have taken it," he said. "With a 10-3 record, we have to win our remaining three games [New Orleans, Phoenix and Dallas] to get home-field advantage."

Although New York have their place in the play-offs, they still have some distance to go to capture the divisional title. New York are only one game in front of Dallas, and they face each other in the final game of the season. Dallas beat the Giants the first time they met this year.

Nine of the 11 games on Sunday were decided by six points or fewer, with Buffalo, Denver, Detroit, Houston and the Los Angeles Raiders getting results that enhanced their play-off position.

FOLKESTONE

THUNDERER

12.15 Thuhool — 1.45 Canoscan
12.45 Pondering — 2.15 Annio Chilone
1.15 Al Sahil — 2.45 SUN SURFER (nap)
3.15 Muscleton

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.45 CANOSCAN.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

12.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,238: 2m 1f 110yd) (6 runners)

101 065-3F3 TOP WAVE 21 (6,S) (A Collins) N Henderson 5-11-10 — M A Fitzgerald 97
102 F14/1/4- JALINGO 334 (C,G,S) (Mrs A Shelton) P Makin 6-11-9 — Richard Guest 87
103 313-223 SOLEIL DANCER 20 (S) (Mrs J Grist) D Grissell 5-11-5 — Peter Hobbs 95
104 00-0490 MY SENOR 12 (S) (M Madgwick) M Madgwick 4-11-0 — R Dunwoody —
105 23-6026 THUHOOL 13 (CD,G,S) (C Cornwell) R Rowe 5-10-10 — C Barnett-Wells (5) 99
106 600121- NORDANSK 179F (F) (D Kingts) M Madgwick 4-10-9 — A Maguire 92

BETTING: 2-1 Soleil Dancer, 9-4 Top Wave, 7-2 Jalingo, 7-1 Thuhool, 8-1 Nordansk, 10-1 My Senor.

1992: THUHOOL 4-9-12 Mr C Barnett-Wells (13-2) R Rowe 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

TOP WAVE was a 5l 3rd of 8 in Nonerene in a handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft).
JALINGO 21l 4th of of 14 to High Baron in a handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft).
SOLEIL DANCER 12l 3rd of 9 to Monday Club in a handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good). MY SENOR 34l 7th of 10 to Here He Comes in a handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good).
THUHOOL 7l 2nd of 4 to Cave Greco in a handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to firm).
NORDANSK beat Wilfaski 2½l 2nd in a 7-runner selling hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, firm).
Selection: TOP WAVE

12.45 STANFORD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(3-Y-O: £1,475: 2m 1f 110yd) (14 runners)

201 1 PONDERING 12 (V,6) (M Pipe) M Pipe 11-5 — R Dunwoody 99
202 0640 ANY MINUTE NOW 31 (Mrs S Crane) R Akehurst 10-12 — D Bridgwater —
203 F CHIEF'S SONG 14 (Mrs A Devine) S Dow 10-12 — H Davies 97
204 MUHTASHIM 166F (A Gorrie) J Fitch-Heyes 10-12 — A Maguire —
205 405 ONE MORE POUND 31 (R Whitaker) M Dixon 10-12 — D Murphy 84
206 3 RUNAWAY PETE 12 (B) (T Long) P Cole 10-12 — J Osborne 97
207 SILVER STANDARD 70F (G Lugg) T Forster 10-12 — B Powell —
208 SMUGGLER'S POINT 166F (M Hickey) R Ingram 10-12 — D O'Sullivan —
209 TOP PET 70F (Mrs A Valentine) R Akehurst 10-12 — G McCourt —
210 02 HERETICAL MISS 14 (A Pavia) J Fitch-Heyes 10-7 — D Gallagher 72
211 JULY BRIDE 136F (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 10-7 — J Akehurst —
212 0 ORCHESTON 14 (Cleeve Racing) M Bolton 10-7 — P Hide (3) —
213 0 SMART DAISY 14 (B Seymour-Sterrill) Mrs L Jewell 10-7 — Richard Guest —
214 6 SUMMER WIND 12 (R Richards) D Elsworth 10-7 — P Holley 80

BETTING: 5-4 Pondering, 2-1 Runaway Pete, 13-2 Summer Wind, 8-1 Muhtashim, 10-1 Chief's Song, 12-1 Any Minute Now, Heretical Miss, Silver Standard, 16-1 others.

1992: SECOND CALL 10-7 M Perrett (11-2) G Harwood 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

PONDERING ran on to beat Mamos Mill 12l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good)
ONE MORE POUND 17½l 5th of 9 to Spring Marathon in a novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110y, soft).
HERETICAL MISS was a 20l 2nd of 15 to Rich Life in a novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good), with ORCHESTON 31½l 9th, SMART DAISY 13½l and CHIEF'S SONG, who was clear when falling at the last. SUMMER WIND was a 29½l 6th of 14 to Admirals Well in a novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good)
Selection: PONDERING

1.15 SELLINDGE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,532: 2m 6f 110yd) (18 runners)

301 17P1-0-36 GOLDEN MOSS 10 (CD,G,S) (Mrs D Hunnisett) J Fitch-Heyes 8-11-11 — A Maguire 88
302 6FF10-6 DONT TELL THE WIFE 66 (S) (H & K Commissions) Mrs D Haine 7-11-7 — D Murphy 87
303 3026-00 BUCKINGHAM GATE 15 (6,S) (T Whitley) D Candollo 7-11-2 — R Dunwoody 85
304 5P4-35P CARFAX 11 (CD,G,S) (Mrs P O'Connell) R Head 8-11-2 — M Hood 98
305 431P15- BRIGHTLING BOY 225 (D,F,6) (M Hayden) D Grissell 8-10-13 — Peter Hobbs 88
306 6043B-P MARCH ABOVE 15 (B,6) (Red House Racing) B Stevens 7-10-13 — M Stevens (7) 86
307 12430-0 HAPPY HORSE 20 (D,S) (Major I Manning) Mrs J Rennee-Beavis 6-10-13 — I Shoemark 98
308 43F-4PP KNIGHTON COOMBE 73 (G,S) (Dr K Bowen) S Bowen 7-10-13 — R Supple 96
309 1-63 PRIZE MATCH 56 (S) (P Taylor) N Gaselee 4-10-12 — D O'Sullivan 90
310 013-153 SPARKLER GEBE 33 (B,D,F,6,S) (Sparkler Fibres) R O'Sullivan 7-10-11 — N Williamson 90
311 53120-0 AL SAHIL 41 (B,D,G,S) (Ms M Horan) J White 8-10-11 — M Bosley 93
312 2236/44 CHEEKY FOX 14 (6,G) (J Westley) J Bosley 7-10-9 — W McFarland 90
313 51-5801 ALICE'S MIRROR 10 (V,G,S) (T McGovern) T McGovern 4-10-8 — A Dicken (5) 91
314 221315 SAKIL 7 (D,F) (Mrs M Devine) S Dow 5-10-1 — J Osborne 98
315 33P622- TROPICAL ACE 299 (R Hendry) R Voorspuy 6-10-1 — W Marston 87
316 5U124-F RELTIC 14 (G) (J Kendrick) C Broad 6-10-0 — I Lawrence 79
317 05-0206 STYLISH GENT 5 (F,G) (Blackfield Racing) P Clarke 6-10-0 — B Clifford —
318 PPrF/PP VAISLY BLAZED 11 (F) (L Spencer) C Horgan 9-10-0 — —

Long handicap: Reltic 9-11, Vaisly Blazed 8-10.

BETTING: 3-1 Prize Match, 4-1 Sparkler Gebe, 9-2 Alice's Mirror, 11-2 Golden Moss, 6-1 Sakil, 13-2 Al Sahil, 7-1 Buckingham Gate, 8-1 Happy Horse, 12-1 Cheeky Fox, Dont Tell The Wife, Tropical Ace, 16-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

GOLDEN MOSS best effort when about 11½l 3rd of 16 to Far Too Loud in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, soft)
BRIGHTLING BOY beat Invite O'Honneur ½l in a 14-runner conditional jockeys selling handicap hurdle (2m 6f, good) on penultimate start last season.
PRIZE MATCH 2½l 3rd of 10 to Strong Medicine in a handicap hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good)
SPARKLER GEBE was a 3l 3rd of 16 to Rusty Roc in a claiming hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to firm).
ALICE'S MIRROR beat Fussy Lady 5l in a 10-runner selling handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft).
SAKIL beat Beslongabitt head in a 6-runner selling novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, firm). TROPICAL ACE 8l 2nd of 14 to Maldon in a novice handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 110y, good).
Selection: ALICE'S MIRROR

1.45 FOLKESTONE NOVICES CHASE (Div I: £2,135: 2m 5f) (8 runners)

401 6/0F2-11 JUMBEAU 18 (G) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-11-12 — P Hide (3) 96
402 4-110F1 CANOSCAN 14 (6,S) (N Clutton) Lady Herries 8-11-7 — E Murphy 99
403 005/46-U DOVEHILL 13 (R Townsend) R Townsend 7-11-2 — Mr P Bull —
404 P46/00 FLUTTER MONEY 20 (G,S) (J Kelly) J Kelly 9-11-2 — G Upton —
405 PP042-P FLYING FINISH 20 (6 Graham) G Graham 8-11-2 — J Akehurst 80
406 0-535F0 MIDDAY SHOW 13 (B,S) (F Sheridan) J Jenkins 6-11-2 — A Maguire 80
407 PU/PP-P SALVAGER 12 (6 West) J Poulton 9-11-2 — R Rowell —
408 0/F3UU- STAR ACTOR 272 (S Wilson) N Henderson 7-11-2 — R Dunwoody 97

BETTING: 8-11 Jumbeau, 13-8 Canoscan, 5-1 Star Actor, 16-1 Salvager, 20-1 others.

1992: LETTERPORE 5-10-10 R Supple (8-1) J Upson 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

JUMBEAU beat Squires Privilege 10l in a 7-runner novice handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good). Previously beat Squaresail Play 15½l in a 9-runner novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 5f, good to firm). CANOSCAN beat Saffron Road 7l in a 5-runner novice chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110y, good to soft). FLYING FINISH 10l 2nd of 12 to Tammy's Friend in a novice chase at Plumpton (2m 2f, soft). STAR ACTOR best effort last season when 7½l 3rd of 7 to Captain Frisk in an amateur riders novice chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft).
Selection: JUMBEAU

2.15 HEATHFIELD HANDICAP CHASE (£3,590: 3m 2f) (5 runners)

501 P15-324 CATCH THE CROSS 12 (B,F,S,S) (D Beswick) M Pipe 7-12-0 — R Dunwoody 97
502 R34P-P2 GHOFAR 11 (B,C,D,F,S,S) (Sir H Dundas) D Elsworth 10-11-12 — P Holley 99
503 2140-53 AMIGO CHILONE 17 (CD,G,S) (Miss J Semple) J Gifford 7-11-7 — P Hide (3) 96
504 21P-4F6 SAM SHORROCK 52 (B,CD,G,S) (K Ogden) G Thorner 11-10-0 — D Bridgwater 92
505 33/3P2 THE GOLFING CURATE 14 (Poem Racing) R Rowe 8-10-0 — C Barnett-Wells (5) 86

Long handicap: Sam Shorrock 9-12, The Golfing Curate 9-4.

BETTING: 13-8 Annio Chilone, 2-1 Ghofar, 5-2 Catch The Cross, 14-1 The Golfing Curate, 16-1 Sam Shorrock.

1992: BUDDINGTON 7-10-10 R Farrant (5-2 fav) T Forster 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CATCH THE CROSS 16½l 4th of 8 to Nevada Gold in a handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, good). Previously 8l 2nd of 4 to Tant in a handicap chase at Leicester (3m, good to soft).
GHOFAR 14l 2nd of 6 to Lake Taiwan in a handicap chase at Exeter (2m 7f 110y, good). AMIGO CHILONE 10½l 3rd of 8 to Padawanstone in a handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good). SAM SHORROCK 26l 6th of 9 to Cambodale in a handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm). THE GOLFING CURATE 25l 2nd of 8 to Ebony Gale in a novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good)
Selection: AMIGO CHILONE (nap)

2.45 FOLKESTONE NOVICES CHASE (Div II: £2,115: 2m 5f) (6 runners)

601 685P-4F DURRINGTON 28 (S) (Mrs S Bjoklid) M Bolton 7-11-2 — Richard Guest —
602 204240 GALLANT EFFORT 13 (S,S) (T Keogh) S Dow 5-11-2 — H Davies 85
603 11-224F GANDOUSE GLEN 27 (F,S) (Mrs S Bastaicse) J Gifford 6-11-2 — D Murphy 99
604 00v HIGH HASSERNS 1267F (T) (Miss J Jenkins) T Forster 7-11-2 — Mrs K Hills —
605 F8/04SP- REAL HARMONY 342 (S) (A Pelrce) R O'Sullivan 7-11-2 — D O'Sullivan —
606 1 1134-FF SUN SURFER 17 (BF,G,S) (S Saintsbury) T Forster 5-11-2 — B Powell —

BETTING: Evens Sun Surfer, 5-2 Gandouse Glen, 7-2 Gallant Effort, 8-1 Durrington, 20-1 Real Harmony, 33-1 High Hasserns.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

DURRINGTON 50l 4th of 11 to Antrak Express in a novice chase at Newbury (2m 1f, good) on penultimate start. GALLANT EFFORT best recent effort when 16l 2nd of 5 to Imperial Brush in a novice chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). GANDOUSE GLEN best recent effort when 10l 2nd of 9 to Miss Gossaigh in a novice chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good).
SUN SURFER, useful novice hurdler last season, close 3rd when fell 3 out in a 5-runner novice chase won by Rodeo Star at Warwick (2m, good)
Selection: GANDOUSE GLEN

3.15 DOVER NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,110: 2m 6f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 1 NEFARIOUS 28 (D,6) (Mrs R Kleinwort) M Campion 7-11-6 — M Richards 92
2 025UF/0- CRUISE CONTROL 237 (H Blair) F O'Mahony 7-11-0 — E Murphy —
3 0-4P MOMKTOR 18 (S Stansbury) T Forster 5-11-0 — B Powell 72
4 .03045/ MUSCLETON 976 (M Kingsley) D Elsworth 8-11-0 — P Holley —
5 006/6-43 PRINCE OF SALERNO 33 (C Wallford) N Gaselee 6-11-0 — R Supple 85
6 5/00-2 SOUTHERLY GALE 34 (Lord Donoughmore) M Pipe 6-11-0 — R Dunwoody 96
7 0/608-32 THE WHIP 29 (Mrs R Howell) D Grissell 6-11-0 — Peter Hobbs 99
8 2-0 WALTON THORNS 56 (B,BF) (Mrs S Roe) C Egerton 5-11-0 — J Osborne —
9 0P BALLYGRIFFIN LAD 34 (T Breen) T McGovern 4-10-12 — W McFarland —
10 00-PF GREENHILL GO ON 10 (B Pearce) Mrs M Long 8-10-9 — R Rowell —

BETTING: 9-4 Southerly Gale, 5-2 Nefarious, 7-2 The Whip, 5-1 Prince Of Salerno, 11-2 Muscleton, 6-1 Walton Thorns, 14-1 Cruise Control, Momkior, 16-1 others.

1992: MAY-DAY-BABY 6-11-0 R Supple (20-1) J Upson 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

NEFARIOUS beat Forest Feather 6l in an 8-runner novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good). MOMKTOR 19l 4th of 13 to Hawaiian Youth in a novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. MUSCLETON 20½l 6th of 17 to Springsteak in a novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good to firm) in April 1991. PRINCE OF SALERNO 5½l 3rd of 12 to Fair Brother in a handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, good). SOUTHERLY GALE 11½l 2nd of 18 to Rampold in a novice hurdle at Worcester (3m, soft), with BALLYGRIFFIN LAD pulled up. THE WHIP 5l 2nd of 7 to Scobie Boy in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good). Previously 6½l 3rd of 13 to Gunsmell Gold in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good), with WALTON THORNS (same owner) 35½l 7th and BALLYGRIFFIN LAD (18l better off) 25l 9th.
Selection: NEFARIOUS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	5	16	31.3	C Barnett-Wells	3	13	23.1
R Rowe	6	20	30.0	A Maguire	8	38	21.1
D Grissell	10	35	28.6	Peter Hobbs	4	20	20.0
R Akehurst	7	26	26.9	R Supple	3	15	20.0
Mrs D Haine	3	12	25.0	H Davies	8	48	16.7
N Henderson	3	12	25.0	B Powell	5	30	16.7

☐ Toby Balding was in good form at Warwick yesterday, when saddling a near 24-1 double with Southampton and Fair Brother. Southampton, a 6-1 chance, maintained his unbeaten record in the selling hurdle with a 12-length success, while Fair Brother, the 5-2 favourite, won the Ettington Handicap Hurdle.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

12.00 Chilly Lad. 12.30 Milngavie. 1.00 Samson-Agonistes 1.30 Karinska. 2.00 Applianceofscience. 2.30 Jolly Swagman. 3.00 Warhurst.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

12.00 SHERATON MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,319: 1m) (10 runners)

1 0 BURNTWOOD MELODY 257 Mrs V Acomley 9-0 L Charnock 10 —
2 002 CHILLY LAD 13 M Ryan 9-0 — D Biggs 5 —
3 FLYING IMP R Hollinshead 9-0 — A Garth (3) 5 —
4 0 GOLDEN HADEEL 12 R Harris 9-0 — C Dwyer 7 —
5 00 GOLD'N SHROUD 50 T Thomson Jones 9-0 — S Whitworth 3 84
6 5 JUST JUNIOR 22 W Tomer 9-0 — T Sprake 8 87
7 603 MANOLETE 22 W Elsey 9-0 — M Kennedy (3) 1 78
8 0805 REGAL RAMBLER 22 L Barratt 9-0 — S Sanders (5) 6 85
9 SIR DANNY M Graham 9-0 — J Quinn 2 —
10 05 DARK THOUGHTS 17 J Scargill 8-9 — J Fanning 4 —

7-4 Chilly Lad, 5-2 Gold'n Shroud, 6-1 Regal Rambler, 8-1 Manolete, 16-1 Sir Danny, 20-1 Flying Imp, Dark Thoughts, 25-1 Burntwood Melody, Just Junior, 33-1 Golden Hadeel.

12.30 LOUIS HANDICAP (£3,054: 2m) (15)

1 1-42 QUALITAIR AVIATOR 13 (C,D,F,G) J Bolsonley 7-10-0 G Bardwell 1 86
2 3214 RECORD LOVER 22 (C,D,G) M Chapman 3-9-5 D McCabe (5) 8 84
3 1002 ELECTROLYTE 25J (C,G) B Palling 3-9-3 — S Whitworth 9 84
4 36-5 AIDE MEMOIRE 36 T Barron 4-8-8 — V Halliday (7) 4 93
5 0010 MALENDIR 21 (B,CD,G) R Spicer 5-8-7 — A Clark 5 94
6 6580 GOODBYE MILLIE 17 (V,C,F,G,S) S Norton 3-8-6 O Pears (3) 15 96
7 044 SHARP SENSATION 13 D Nicholls 3-8-6 — Alex Greaves 12 97
8 -443 MRS JAWLEYFORD 21 C Smith 5-8-3 — P McCabe (5) 2 88
9 1524I PIE HATCH 15 (B,C,F,G) B McMahon 4-8-3 C Hawksley (7) 13 80
10 4531 MERGIUS 40 (D,F,G,S) R Fisher 6-8-0 — J Quinn 14 95
11 0422 MR LUCIANO 5 Allan Smith (Bel) 3-7-11 — N Carlisle 10 95
12 3526 MILNGAVIE 6 (F,S) M Johnston 3-7-11 — D Biggs 11 96
13 4630 KOVALEVSKIA 21 (CD,F,G,S) D Wilson 8-7-10 — A Mackay 8 89
14 005 DOCK OF THE BAY 15 P McBride 3-7-7 — D Wright (5) 3 —
15 0604 SPORTING SPIRIT 21 (S) D Chapman 3-7-7 — N Adams 7 81

4-1 Milngavie, Sharp Sensation, 5-1 Electrolyte, Qualitair Aviator, 6-1 Record Lover, 10-1 Aide Memoire, Pie Hatch, 12-1 Milngavie, 16-1 others.

1.00 CHIPPENDALE CLAIMING STAKES
(£3,106: 5f) (17)

1 0005 ELLE SHAPED 77 (D,F,G) S Norton 3-9-3 — O Pears (3) 13 —
2 0300 SAVANNA SOUND 13 (V,F,G,S) S Bowring 8-9-3 — — 7 78
3 0130 SIR TASKER 17 (CD,F,G) J Harris 5-8-13 — D Biggs 16 88
4 0552 PALLIUM 28 (V,D,F,G) M Haughton 5-8-11 — V Halliday (7) 6 84
5 0640 MAKE MINE A DOUBLE 127 (D,F) D Nicholls 3-8-9 — Alex Greaves 2 81
6 2316 SAMSON-AGONISTES 13 (D,F,G,S) B McMahon 7-8-9 — S Sanders (5) 10 93
7 0000 SO SURFER 22 (B,D,S) M Dods 4-8-8 — S Webster 3 74
8 6423 VERY DICEY 16 (D,F,G) J Berry 5-8-9 — Ruth Coulter (7) 14 86
9 0005 ABSOLUTELY NUTS 12 (D,S) P Evans 4-8-6 — J Williams 11 74
10 5030 LAST STRAW 143 (CD,6) A Jones 5-8-7 Claire Balding (7) 17 52
11 3020 TEE-EMM 15 (S) P Howling 3-8-7 — L Carter (7) 15 77
12 0060 DRUM SERGEANT 15 (B,D,F,S) J Parlas 6-8-3 — J Fanning 1 90
13 0504 GENTLE HERO 21 (V,D,F,G,S) M Naughton 7-8-3 — A Clark 9 81
14 0000 GRAND TIME 159 (CD,F,G,S) C Hill 4-8-3 — J Quinn 4 89
15 5030 TOMMY TEMPEST 130 (B,D,S) K Burke 4-8-3 P McCabe (5) 8 87
16 3400 FIVE ISLANDS 6 (D,G) Mrs N Macauley 3-8-0 — Dale Gibson 5 78
17 06-0 PETITE LASS 48 (D,6) R Jukes 3-7-12 — N Adams 12 80

5-1 Elle Shaped, 6-1 Sir Tasker, 7-1 Pallium, Very Dicey, Grand Time, 8-1 Samson-Agonistes, 50 Superb, 10-1 Tee-Emm, Absolutely Nuts, 12-1 Drum Sergeant, Gentle Hero, 14-1 Five Islands, 16-1 Savanna Sound, 20-1 others.

Blinkered first time

SOUTHWELL: 2.00 Kinchenjunga. 2.30 Bienvenu, Lincoln Treasure. 3.00 Foresta Verde.

1.30 WINDERMERE HANDICAP (£5,005: 1m) (16)

1 4305 ROSEATE LODGE 17J (C,D,F,G) K Burke 7-9-10 - M Tebbutt 5 90
2 4008 DESERT ZONE 22 (S) J Harris 4-9-10 — J Williams 12 89
3 0012 DREAM CARRIER 21 (C,F,G) T Barron 5-9-9 - V Halliday (7) 7 98
4 3011 BEVERLY KNIGHT 15 (D,G) D Murray Smith 3-9-8 R Painter (7) 9 91
5 2405 BOLD PURSUIT 104 (D,F) J FitzGerald 4-9-8 — L Charnock 14 89
6 5400 ST MARTHA 17 (G) M Tompkins 3-9-7 — S Mulvey (7) 1 —
7 4105 CAUSLEY 13 (CD,F,G,S) B McMahon 8-9-0 - S Sanders (5) 11 95
8 0421 KARINSKA 22 (CD,F,G) M Chapman 3-8-13. D McCabe (5) 10 97
9 0600 MENTALASHAYTHIN 58 (CD,G,S) A Bailey 4-8-13 A Mackay 13 96
10 -000 MAJOR MOUSE 22 (D,F,S) W Haigh 5-8-13 - S D Williams 16 —
11 0330 NELLIE'S GAMBLE 70 (CD,G,S) A Stringer 3-8-10 T Williams 8 89
12 0024 KUSSAVOS 17 (BF,CD,F,G) C Elsey 7-8-5 — J Quinn 3 94
13 3600 MAJAL 39J (F) J Wainwright 4-8-5 — J Fanning 2 88
14 0010 RURAL LAD 22 (CD,F,G,S) R Spicer 4-8-5 — A Clark 15 95
15 0030 STATE FLYER 86J (B,S) G Oldroyd 5-8-4 — N Carlisle 6 92
16 6000 APPEALING TIMES 21 (C,G) D Chapman 4-8-1 — N Adams 4 86

5-1 Dream Carrier, 6-1 Beverly Knight, Mentalasaynthin, 7-1 Karinska, Roseate Lodge, 8-1 Causley, 10-1 Desert Zone, 12-1 Major Mouse, 14-1 others.

2.00 ADAMS APPRENTICE CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,691: 1m 4f) (17)

1 1000 BREAKDANCER 15 (D,F,G) W Muir 4-9-10 — S McCarthy 5 87
2 3153 CASTLE BIDDER 109 (V) Allen Smith (Bel) 4-9-10 S Sanders (5) — —
3 OLYMPIC WAY 16J W Turner 4-9-5 — L Sellhorn (5) 9 —
4 3-0 JAMAICA BRIDGE 194 J FitzGerald 3-9-4 — M Harris 1 83
5 005- DODGER DICKINS 510 (F,S) R Hollinshead 6-9-2 F Savage (5) 2 98
6 0036 APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE 6 (S) K Wingrove 6-8-12 — M Baird 7 95
7 5001 SOL ROUGE 21 (CD,6) R Thompson 4-8-11 W Hawksley (5) 8 98
8 3/ WHITEHOUSE GEM 1578J R Peacock 10-8-11 — S Knott 12 —
9 6550 BARSAL 14J J Parlas 3-8-10 — C Teague 6 81
10 4400 NOBLE MEASURE 22 (B) S Bowring 3-8-6 — G Strange 11 99
11 5033 PRINCE PALACIO 123 D Burchell 3-8-6 — W Hollick (5) 13 71
12 0210 DON'T BE SAKI 13 (C,G) R Thompson 3-8-5 — T Hamilton 16 —
13 300 GREENACRES STAR 28 B McMahon 3-8-5 — J Bramhill 3 92
14 0300 KINCHENJUNGA 15 (B) W Muir 3-8-5 — Aimee Cook 17 94
15 0400 LADY CONFESS 39 Mrs H Macauley 3-8-5 Madeleine Smith 16 85
16 00 KNIGHT SHEPHERD 39 P Felgate 3-8-2 — J Edmunds 4 —
17 BETTY KENWOOD K Wingrove 3-7-11 — C Adamson 15 —

5-2 Sol Rouge, 6-1 Breakdancer, 7-1 Applianceofscience, Don't Be Saki, 8-1 others.

2.30 SHERATON MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,319: 1m) (9)

1 0 BIENVENU 39 (B) W Elsey 9-0 — Dale Gibson 7 —
2 JOLLY SWAGMAN Lord Huntingdon 9-0 — J Williams 8 —
3 4402 JUST HARRY 21 M Ryan 9-0 — D Biggs 1 80
4 4506 LINCOLN TREASURE 21 (B) M Chapman 9-0 D McCabe (5) 9 89
5 4 MYTTON'S CHOICE 8 A Bailey 9-0 — S Whitworth 6 74
6 0006 VAYELLO 13 (B) C Smith 9-0 — K Rutter (5) 3 —
7 3020 WINN'S PRIDE 38 R Hollinshead 9-0 — S Parks 2 89
8 00 MISS TIPSY 22 W Haigh 8-9 — S D Williams 4 —
9 0 NORDIC MADAM 43 R O'Leary 8-9 — L Charnock 5 —

2-1 Winn's Pride, 5-2 Jolly Swagman, 5-1 Just Harry, 8-1 others.

3.00 REGENCY NURSERY HANDICAP (£3,494: 7f) (10)

1 881 WARHURST 13 (C,G) M Tompkins 9-7 — S Mulvey (7) 9 —
2 3021 QUEENS STROLLER 13 (CD,5) C Elsey 8-10 — J Quinn 10 98
3 6064 FLOATING TRIAL 36 (V,BF,C,G) D Nicholls 8-5 Alex Greaves 3 95
4 0200 CHARLIES DREAM 31 K Burke 8-3 — N Adams 8 93
5 0300 BUNNY RUN 77 P Howling 7-13 — D Biggs 5 87
6 504 FORESTA VERDE 22 (B) C Booth 7-12 — L Charnock 2 88
7 0502 CAZANOVE'S PET 13 B Beasley 7-10 — C Hawksley (7) 7 97
8 050 MAZZA 17J J Szargiti 7-7 — S Bardwell 4 91
9 0006 PASTURES NEW 38 B Hothwell 7-7 — J Fanning 8

Insularity stands in England's way

David Miller bemoans the long-term decline of English football and says the central issue is the constitution of the FA, which is too amateur-based and being restructured



Parry, left, chief executive of the Premier League, whose vision offers hope for the future, with Kelly, the FA chief executive

England has paid a heavy price for having produced the wisest administrator, Sir Stanley Rous, in 130 years of organised football. Socially prejudiced against professionals on the field, from the turn of the century to the present day, the Football Association's jealous resentment of Rous's omniscient authority as a professional administrator led, on his elevation to president of Fifa, the world governing body, in 1962, to their turning inwards in self-protective bureaucracy.

The influential wife of the then FA chairman, Graham Doggart, together with many councillors such as Sir Harold Thompson, determined to avoid having another all-powerful secretary who bypassed them. They rejected Rous's nominee, the retiring team manager, Walter Winterbottom, and elected Denis Follows, a schoolmaster from the Universities Athletic Union, who had mostly watched rugby and regarded the FA post as a career opportunity. This led in turn to the appointment of Charles Hughes, devoid of high-level playing experience, as director of coaching. The formula for England's long-term decline was in place, never mind a hundred good intentions.

At all levels, amateur and professional, the game has become technically more limited — partially a natural phenomenon of changing social forces — tactically more negative, in the schools more misdirected, and everywhere more undisciplined and even violent. The largest portion of income for some county associations now comes from misconduct fines.

Foremost of the failures is the England team's in the World Cup and the need, 30 years late, to devise a calendar-structure that will assist the team's proper preparation; together with determining the selection principles for appointing a manager with the necessary qualities that Graham Taylor lacked.

Second, the direction of coaching, especially in schools, has become warped, concentrating first on competitive achievement instead of skill. This crisis could be temporarily beyond recall, following the FA's approval of Hughes's blanket coaching strategy officially propagated in his *Programme for Excellence*, some of which is akin to the theory that passenger aircraft would be structurally more functional if they did not have windows. Hughes's football is soulless.

Third, the professional clubs are morally in the mire, how seriously nobody knows, over alleged transfer malpractice involving prominent managers such as Brian Clough and Terry Venables. A belated enquiry is under way.

Fourth, arising partially from the contemporary physical style of play, there is besides rampant fouling — sadly common throughout the world — an alarming incidence of serious injury. Equally alarming is the FA's apparent lack of concern, only partially offset by action from the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), a body that itself falls short of the self-disciplinary vigilance of, say, the Professional Golfers' Association.

Fifth, and central to the preceding issues, is the constitution of the FA, traditional, amateur-based and in recent years too heavily referee-based. To revise the structure, Sir Bert Millichip, the FA chairman, has appointed a committee that contains not one professional.

If that committee is unlikely to give birth to more than a mouse, in proposals for modernisation, and the committee investigating the transfer irregularities is likely to be frustrated by lack of evidence, the committee assigned to produce a national team manager — in time for the next international against Denmark in March — seems equally destined for a beta minus solution and another hit or miss appointment.

This committee's main virtue is that it does not contain Peter Swales, chairman of the derelict international committee. Yet Millichip, Graham Kelly, the chief executive, and Ian Stott and Noel White, respective directors of Oldham Athletic and Liverpool, are barely any better versed in the complexities of what makes a good national, as opposed to club, manager. They should be interrogating Rinus Michels, Franz Beckenbauer or Cesar Menotti.

Assisting them instead is the avuncular Jimmy Armfield, 15 years out of the game and renowned, when manager at Leeds United, for his indecision. Armfield, an exciting England full back, is known to admire Kevin Keegan, a former England player of prodigious application, who has only four months' experience as a Premiership manager and a worrying reputation for temperamental instability at moments of emotional crisis, as in the 1982 World Cup finals.



The only club managers effective at the highest level who were not former internationals have been Stein, Greenwood, Paisley, Allison and Mee — the latter two assisted respectively by Mercer and Howe — and, to a lesser extent, Atkinson.

Not on the manager selection committee is Robert Chase, the chairman of Norwich City, a club which pound-for-commercial-pound is the most successful in Europe. He has radical views.

"A successful national team is fundamental to promoting interest, from grass-roots right to the top," Chase says. "Not just the money for the FA [which has lost £5 million at least from World Cup elimination] but the prestige.

"There should be a committee of three, exclusively delegated to run the senior team: a chairman to front the operation, to take the flak and the public responsibility; a manager with the right management qualities as well as tactical and playing experience; and an administrative secretary to handle the logistics. The chairman and secretary need not be from within the FA, but directly responsible to the council. The problem in democracies [like the FA] is that powerful people seldom get elected."

Chase also believes that revised League regulations are needed to reduce wear and tear on the best players. There should be permission to play below-strength teams without contrived medical certificates, exemption from the League Cup for European contenders and larger club squads, achieved by intelligent wage structures as at Norwich.

Steve Coppell, the former England winger and Crystal Palace manager and member of the transfer enquiry panel, considers the World Cup crisis is comparatively easily adjusted.

"The team just needs *time* together, and not so much to be coached but to practise together," he says. "If golfers don't get back to the practice ground, they quickly slide, just like a musician. There would be a dramatic improvement, internationally, if our players had fewer matches." The FA is committed to reducing the Premiership to 20 clubs from next season, with a blueprint for a further reduction to 18. "We won't fix a date till we see the financial situation," Millichip says cautiously. Some clubs will resist the loss of income.

Neither Millichip nor Kelly, however, has the personality to force the issue through. Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, whose vision offers hope for the future, observes: "You don't get given power, you have to take it." Such power would only be had by an American-style commissioner; but such a role would demand protecting the interest of the League rather than the national team.

The changing of the coaching base, long-term, will take 20 years. The FA, including Hughes, is committed to restricting schoolboys to 60 matches a year, to preventing under-11s playing on full-size pitches, and to allowing professional clubs access to juniors for coaching from nine, utilising more than 100 "centres of excellence". But as Millichip rightly asks: "Who is coaching the coaches?" Hughes's direct-line theories are culturally bankrupt.

Millichip claims that regional development coaches are not directed by Hughes, and is optimistic the FA is moving in the right direction, yet admits: "It won't happen overnight." It will never happen until those controlling teams, from nine-year-olds upwards, are looking for a Trevor Brooking rather than a Vinnie Jones or a David Batty.

Correcting the transfer irregularities is equally problematic. "We're not detectives, and we don't have the legal power to get at the evidence," Millichip complains. Parry wants the enquiry to be forward looking, not a vindictive witch-hunt for past indiscretions. He would favour abolishing *in-season transfers*, with a fortnight's "window" mid-season for emergencies.

Coppell is in favour if it would help smaller clubs, but believes restive greedy players can never be restrained. "What is needed is a formalising registry of agents, who cannot be eliminated and can even be helpful," he says. Parry, who believes the majority of clubs act honourably, wants agents barred from representing both club and player. "One or the other," he says. Kelly points to the need for tightening managers' contracts, with a restriction on taking a cut of transfer fees; and for stricter regulations, in conjunction with Fifa, on the use by clubs of offshore financial companies.

The irony of football's problems is that the necessary intelligence is to be found within the game. What has been lacking for so long is the will, the authority and the leadership to impose the solutions, these often being obstructed by self-interest and the age-old resentment of professionals.

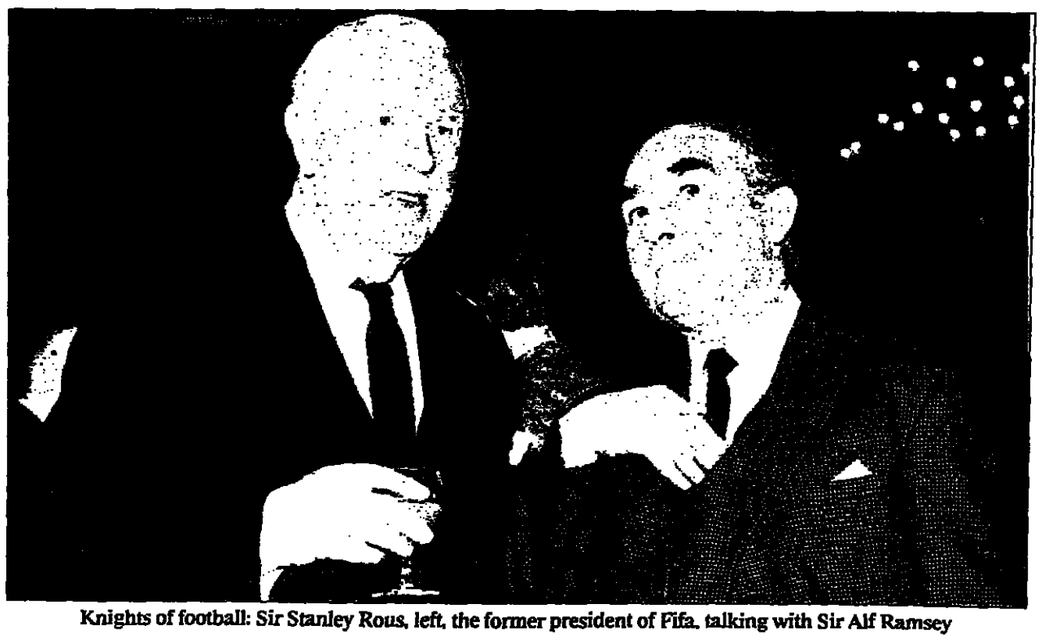
Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the PFA, may moan that Bobby Charlton was thrown off the FA council, yet he was outvoted by his own north-west clubs; the same myopia that for 15 years prevented the FA employing Bobby Moore, second only to Charlton in global fame.

Some see the failure of all four teams in the United Kingdom to qualify for the World Cup — the first time — as the moment for unification as a single nation, as in athletics: an amalgam nation long demanded by other Fifa members. The historic advantage of separate membership — all four preceding Fifa's formation — remains valid. Sepp Blatter, Fifa's general secretary, agrees.

"With four votes in congress, 50 per cent of the voting on the international board which governs the laws, and the advantage of integrating their club players, I don't think the British will ever voluntarily abandon separate membership, which is constitutionally acknowledged by Fifa's executive," Blatter says. "Administratively, Britain lost their authority, which was long taken for granted, not because of errors but because other nations, especially Latins, realised the scope of power, and once they gained it were reluctant to relinquish it.

"It is a fact that the British structure tends to prevent anyone coming through [internationally], but there will be a swing. The trouble is the British today do not have enough team spirit [in committee]. You have to prepare long in advance for election. You need national presidents who are chairmen of the executive board day by day."

Exactly.



Knights of football: Sir Stanley Rous, left, the former president of Fifa, talking with Sir Alf Ramsey

TOMORROW

The crises confronting English cricket

Plan to link with Welsh league is dismissed by RFU

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE Anglo-Welsh league, hypothesised so frequently of late by leading Welsh clubs, met with a firm rebuttal from the Rugby Football Union (RFU) yesterday. Not only is the concept not being discussed officially but the climate of opinion has grown unfavourable.

"English clubs seem very much against it," John Jeavons-Fellows, chairman of the RFU competitions sub-committee, said at Twickenham. "The view is much cooler than a year ago and Welsh clubs are finding difficulty playing 22 league games a season — 18 games for the RFU are not that easy."

Jeavons-Fellows warned that clubs might have to concede their best players to divisional and other representative rugby and rest them far more readily than is now the case if the pressure were not to become unbearable.

"We have not yet found a way of taking our top 50 players out of the hurly-burly of club rugby after Christmas." But he contended that league rugby was not the problem since clubs were so ready to fill gaps in the schedule, citing recent tours by the South African Barbarians, Auckland and Stellenbosch University.

"Competitions drive the game, from the World Cup down to the Stourbridge under-eights trophy," he said. "If we don't have competitions, players won't play, spectators won't spectate and sponsors won't sponsor. If we reduce the league matches, senior clubs will fill the holes. It would leave room for an Anglo-Welsh league or a European cup but it wouldn't reduce pressure on players."

The RFU has ample domestic problems with the running of its own league programme which has been hit by recent allegations of foul play: these followed the encounter between Harlequins and Bath and resurfaced after Bath's meeting with London Irish last Saturday when Howard Lamb, the Irish No 8, repeated accusations of eye gouging made earlier by Harlequins.

"Nothing has been referred to the RFU but we are concerned about reports such as these, which put the game in a poor light," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said. "You will always get incidents and we have to live with that. No union is more anxious than us to maintain discipline. We are under the spotlight as never before and have to work constantly at the game's image."

England, due to tour South Africa next May and June, yesterday asked their hosts for a less-demanding itinerary. English officials were concerned that the fixtures they were offered was too tough and contained unreasonable fluctuations in altitude.

☐ Ireland have included four full internationals in the team to face Scotland in the A international at Hughenden, Glasgow, on December 28: Ciaran Clarke, the full back, Simon Geoghegan, right wing, Mark McCall, centre, and Phil Lawlor, No 8.

IRELAND A: C Clarke (Terenure College); S Geoghegan, D Dooley (London Irish), M McCall (Bangor), N Woods, A McGowan (Blackrock College), N Hogan (Terenure College, capt), H Hurley (Old Wesley), K Wood (Garryowen), A N Other, D Tweed (Ballymena), G Fulcher (Cork Constitution), E Halvey (Shannon), L Toland (Old Crescent), P Lawlor (Bective Rangers). Replacements: B Walsh (Cork Constitution), P Burke, R Saunders (London Irish), K Potts (St Mary's College), P Soden (Cork Constitution), S Byrne (Blackrock College)

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Ischgl	20	100	good	varied	good	fair	1	12/12
(Good skiing on all open pistes)								
Kitzbühel	20	60	good	varied	fair	sun	0	13/12
(Good skiing with fresh snow)								
Obergurgl	30	70	good	varied	good	fair	3	12/12
(Fresh powder and good skiing)								
Söll	35	60	good	varied	good	cloud	1	12/12
(More lifts open in Skiwelt after new snow)								
St Anton	35	115	good	varied	fair	fine	2	12/12
(Good skiing generally though some worn patches)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	60	120	good	varied	fair	cloud	2	12/12
(Good skiing after recent snowfalls)								
Courchevel	70	110	good	varied	good	cloud	1	11/12
(Good skiing, link with Moriond open)								
Ménbel	35	110	good	varied	good	cloud	0	11/12
(All Trois Vallées links to open on December 18)								
Tignes	48	235	good	varied	fair	sun	5	11/12
(Excellent skiing conditions on Grande Motte)								
Val d'Isère	65	110	good	varied	good	fine	3	11/12
(Excellent piste skiing, windpacked snow off the pistes)								
Val Thorens	90	200	good	crusty	good	snow	2	13/12
(Good skiing on the pistes that are open)								
SWITZERLAND								
Davos	40	110	good	powder	good	sun	3	12/12
(Excellent skiing in all open areas)								
Verbier	15	120	good	powder	fair	cloud	3	11/12
(Snow and sunshine most of the day)								
Zermatt	20	140	good	varied	closed	fine	4	11/12
(Good skiing on upper slopes of all areas)								
UNITED STATES								
Vail	70	95	good	powder	good	cloud	5	13/12
(Plentiful fresh snow on good base)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L = lower slopes, U = upper slopes

Zimbabwe lose advantage

By Our Sports Staff

ZIMBABWE appear likely to rue the missed chances that enabled Pakistan to escape from a tight corner in the second Test match at Rawalpindi yesterday.

Zimbabwe, who had a nine-run lead on the first innings, were in high spirits after the first hour of the fourth day. Pakistan, having resumed at 40 for three, were tottering at 58 for five. They made a partial recovery but were still in serious trouble at 132 for six just after lunch.

Then, three dropped catches and some determined batting by Pakistan's lower middle-order saw the balance swing. Asif Mujtaba and Rashid Latif put on 77 for the seventh wicket and by the close Pakistan were 212 runs ahead at 221 for eight.

Latif, the wicketkeeper, joined Mujtaba when Basit Ali was dismissed after a stubborn innings of 40 and they combined to keep the Zimbabwean seam attack at bay. Latif made a breezy 61 from 78 balls, hitting eight fours, while Mujtaba, who had gone to the crease at the height of the crisis, when Javed Miandad was fifth out, scored 51.

Heath Streak has been Zimbabwe's most successful bowler, with figures of four for 52, while Eddo Brandes and Dave Brain have captured two wickets apiece.

Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis were the not out batsmen at the close, no doubt relieved to have a decent score to defend when Zimbabwe bat for a second time in search of a first victory as a Test-playing nation.

Andy Flower, the Zimbabwe captain, summed up: "We did not field as well as we had done earlier. We put down vital catches but we are still very much in the game.

"Hopefully, we will get the last two Pakistani batsmen out quickly and then we will go all out to reach the target."

Flower said he had misread the pitch and should have played four quick bowlers on a well-grassed surface that has offered plenty of bounce. Instead, he included a spinner, Steven Peall, who has had only eight overs and was not called on during the Pakistan first innings, which lasted for 110 overs.

SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN: First Innings 245 (Asif Mujtaba 54 not out; D H Brain 4 for 41).

Second Innings

Aamer Sohail lbw b Streak	9
Shoaib Mohammad c A Flower b Streak	13
Inzamam-ul-Haq b Brandes	14
Ata-ur-Rehman lbw b Brain	0
Javed Miandad b Streak	10
Basit Ali lbw b Brandes	40
Asif Mujtaba c A Flower b Brain	51
†Rashid Latif c Houghton b Streak	61
*Wasim Akram not out	5
Waqar Younis not out	1
Extras (b 1, lb 11, nb 2, w 3)	17
Total (8 wkts)	221

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-33, 3-39, 4-54, 5-58, 6-132, 7-209, 8-219

BOWLING: Brandes 29-9-52-2; Brain 32-6-62-2; Streak 20-3-52-4, Peall 8-4-13-0, Whittall 4-1-10-0; G W Flower 4-0-13-0

ZIMBABWE: First Innings 254 (M H Dekker 68, A D R Campbell 62, Waqar Younis 5 for 74)

Ilott's patience pays dividend

From Michael Henderson in Johannesburg

MARK Ilott had every reason to curse the Valkyries who protect the souls of Test batsmen when he made his England debut last summer. Pitched into an Ashes series a shade green, as he might privately confess, he was dropped after three largely fruitless appearances. Accordingly he lost his place in the pecking order and while others are preparing for West Indies, he remains an A student in South Africa.

However disappointed he may be to be demoted, along with Martin McCague and Martin Bicknell, he is disguising it well. In the absence of the two Martins, who are not fit for a four-day game, Ilott bowled England A to their astonishing victory over Transvaal on Sunday, taking six wickets in the second innings. When the complicity of the batsmen in their downfall is taken into consideration it was still a mighty effort by Ilott, the only fit pace bowler available on a day of dressing-room illness.

Ilott said: "I have played at Essex with Neil Foster and Derek Pringle, who are very disciplined bowlers, and I have seen that patience is important. I was pleased with my performance on Sunday. It was the most consistent spell I have bowled for some time."

Ilott discovered in the first over he bowled on tour, against an Invitation XI in Alexandra, that to get leg-before decisions a full length is more important than in England. "I hit Mandy Yachad on the roll and thought it was a good shout. It was only when a ball of similar length went over the stumps that I realised the umpire had made a good decision."

On Sunday he made the conscious effort to bowl less quickly, partly to shoulder the responsibility invested in him, partly to give the ball a better chance to swing, but as Phil Neale, the team manager who was in the field, noted: "He did not lose a lot of pace."

The days spent at Lilleshall prior to departure made a significant impression on Ilott. Alan Butcher, his coach at Essex, persuaded him to amend his wrist position to avoid drag in delivery. "It is imperative that a left-armer can swing the ball and I know that people were complaining that I didn't swing it enough. But I swung it at Lilleshall and I have swung it consistently here," Ilott said.

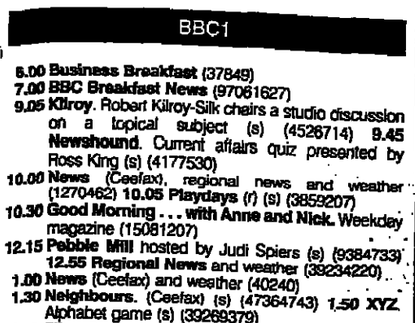
The dark months between June 1991 and March 1992 are now behind Ilott. Jim Davies, the Essex physiotherapist, told him that any pain he felt in future would relate not to the stress fracture of his back, which required surgery, but the residual stiffness every bowler feels from time to time.

"He was right. Even now, when I wake up with a little niggle, I think 'stress fracture' but there has been no recurrence and I am fighting fit."

هكذا من الأصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (37849)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (97061627)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (4526714) **9.45 Newshound**. Current affairs quiz presented by Ross King (s) (4177530)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1270462) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (3859207)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (15081207)
12.15 Pebble Mill hosted by Judi Spiers (s) (9384733) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (39234220)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (40240)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (47364743) **1.50 XYZ**. Alphabet game (s) (39269379)
2.15 Film: Mirrors (1985) starring Marguerite Hickey and Timothy Daly. A talented ballerina arrives in New York from the American Midwest and lands a chorus part in a musical. Before long she has to decide whether to follow her career or her heart. Directed by Harry Winer. (Ceefax) (606068)
3.50 Tales of the Tooth Fairies. Animation (7411530) **3.55 Moomin** (s) (1156559) **4.20 Spacevets** (s) (4496191) **4.35 It'll Never Work**. Last in the series on unusual technological inventions (s) (8353714)
5.00 Newsround (8697337) **5.10 Byker Grove**. Children's drama series set in and around a Tyneside youth centre. (Ceefax) (4826153)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (727191). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Jennie Bond. (Ceefax) Weather (337)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (917). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours
7.00 Holiday. Includes reports on London, the Caribbean island of Nevis, mountain biking in the Tuscany hills and theme parks. (Ceefax) (s) (7608)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (801)
8.00 Children's Hospital. More dramas from Sheffield Children's Hospital. (Ceefax) (6356)
8.30 A Question of Sport presented by David Coleman. This week Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Peter Baker, Mark Ramprakash, Gordon Strachan and Nicola Fairbrother. (Ceefax) (s) (8191)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (3627)



Adversaries Doyle and Pearson (9.30pm)

9.30 Between the Lines: Big Boys' Rules. Drama series about internal police investigations. Starring Neil Pearson, Tom Georgeson and Tony Doyle. (Ceefax) (s) (403269). **Wales:** Week In Week Out 10.00 Between the Lines 10.50 Omnibus 11.40-1.25am Film: The Odd Couple
10.20 CHOICE **Omnibus: Looking Back at You.** (Ceefax) (s) (577578)
Northern Ireland: Country Times 10.45 Omnibus 11.35-1.25am Film: The Odd Couple
11.10 FILM: The Odd Couple (1968) starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau. An adaptation of Neil Simon's acclaimed Broadway comedy about best friends who fall out when circumstances lead to the fastidious, domestic one having to stay at the other's tip of an apartment. Directed by Gene Saks (122733) **12.55am Weather** (7799680)
2.15-3.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club. Scrambled (95009) **3.15 Legal Network Television.** Scrambled (17221)

BBC2

6.55 FILM: The Falcon and the Co-Eds (1943, b/w). Tom Conway stars as the suave detective in this thriller set in an exclusive all-girls' school. Directed by William Clemens (6617240)
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (2314795)
8.15 Westminster Daily (9106917)
9.00 FILM: Roughshod (1949, b/w). Robert Sterling stars in this romantic western. Directed by Mark Robson (7724530)
10.25 FILM: I Dream Too Much (1935, b/w). Musical comedy starring Henry Fonda and Lily Pons. Directed by John Cromwell (59712356)
12.00 Play Chess! Traps and swindles (r) (3850086)
12.10 A Fisherman's Diary: Winter (r) (8041646)
12.40 Glynn Christian's Serendipity: Fish and Ships. Sri Lankan food (r) (61947646)
12.50 The Allotment Show: Middlesbrough (r) (2064337)
1.20 The Brollys (r) (63136207)
1.35 The Story of English Furniture with Arthur Negus (r) (20010066)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (68910207) **2.05 See Hear!** (r) (s) (3547207)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (9856998) **3.05 Westminster Live** (Ceefax) (2053022) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (1149424)
4.00 Catchword with Paul Coia (s) (530)
4.30 Great Crimes and Trials of the 20th-Century: Murph the Surf (b/w). The theft of 22 precious gems from New York's Museum of Natural History in 1964 (s) (714)
5.00 Today's the Day. History quiz (s) (8714)
5.30 Film 93 with Barry Norman (r) (s) (406)
6.00 FILM: Le Mans (1971). Steve McQueen is a racing driver determined to win the 24-hour endurance race. Lee H. Katzin directs. (Ceefax) (83102356)
7.45 Assignment: Shutting the Asylum Door. Vincent Hanna reports on the growing number of genuine political refugees who are seeking asylum in the west. Last in the series (235608)
8.30 The Food and Drink Christmas Quiz presented by Chris Kelly (s) (6733)
9.00 Harry Enfield's Festive Television Programme (r). (Ceefax) (592820)



British entrepreneurs visit Russia (9.40pm)

9.40 CHOICE **40 Minutes: Moscow Gold.** (Ceefax) (s) (395801)
10.20 10 x 10. As Ken gives his last haircut before retiring, he reflects on his career (r) (571801)
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron. (Ceefax) (443207)
11.15 The Late Show. Tracey Macleod presents a compilation of musical clips (r) (s) (563795)
11.55 Weather (288882)
12.00 FILM: The Seventh Victim (1943, b/w) starring Kim Hunter and Tom Conway. An orphan travels to New York in search of her missing sister but discovers a sinister cult of devil worshippers. Directed by Mark Robson (338738). Ends **1.45am**

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CHOICE



Love match for O'Toole and Andrews (ITV, 8.30pm)

Danielle Steel's Jewels
ITV, 8.30pm

We are in 1936. "It was June, the month of brides, it was the happiest day of my life" trills socialite Sarah (Annette O'Toole), as she weds her Freddie on Long Island. Poor Sarah. Freddie is a drunken brute and hardly have the opening credits gone cold than the marriage is over. So it is off to Europe to recover. First stop is London, signalled by "Rule Britannia!" and a shot of Big Ben. At an unconvincingly staged cricket match Sarah meets the dashing Duke of Whitfield (Anthony Andrews), thirteenth in line to the throne. But will the king allow a divorcée into the family? You bet he will. The couple take on a crumbling French château. Then the Germans invade. But the dialogue gets no better and there are many more hours to go.

40 Minutes: Moscow Gold
BBC2, 9.40pm

A group of businessmen from north London takes itself off to free-market Russia in the hope of drumming up orders. One wants to interest the Russians in women's fashions, another in a fried-chicken franchise. But their deliberations are upstaged, and so is this film, when Boris Yeltsin's tanks attack the White House. Since the building is just across the river from their hotel, they have an ideal view. "It is, I regret to say, rather exciting," declares the fashion salesman, as he is told to get away from the window. As for whether the trip was worthwhile in the business sense, we never really get to know. Selling women's coats and fried chicken pieces seems suddenly trivial when set against a possibly decisive moment in Russian history.

From Beirut to Bosnia
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The second of his films about Muslim fundamentalism takes the journalist Robert Fisk to the occupied territories of Israel. He arrives in Gaza just in time to catch the latest Israeli atrocity, an attack on Palestinian homes. Fisk calls it a routine incident. From which you may gather that his sympathies are with the Muslims. For much of the programme it does seem that way. The Muslims, even the extremist Habab, are presented as fighting to reclaim their legitimate Palestinian homeland. Israel is the brutal interloper. But just as you are about to dismiss the exercise as a party political, Fisk turns up in Poland, tracing an Israeli family's history back to the Treblinka death camp. Now balance is restored.

Omnibus: Looking Back At You
BBC1, 10.20pm (Scotland: Thursday, 11.10pm)

Although highly regarded in his field, Sebastiao Salgado is not a name that might fall readily from many British lips. Two things will help to put that right. One is an exhibition of his work at the Festival Hall in London. The other is this profile. Salgado is a Brazilian-born photo-journalist. His biggest project to date, one that took him seven years, is a world wide celebration of manual labour. Salgado could have earned huge sums of money on lucrative assignments such as fashion. He prefers to take his camera to shipyards, steel mills and fields of sugar cane. His photographs set out to capture the dignity and stamina of mostly poor people. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV with Lorraine Kelly and Eamonn Holmes **9.00 Top of the Morning.** Family magazine programme with Amanda Redington (4654578)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Game show with Dale Winton (s) (9070443) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3835627)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place. John Stapleton hosts a topical studio debate (s) (7349646)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine hosted by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (15075646) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9182998)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (2075443)
12.55 Emmerdale (r) (Teletext) (2083462) **1.25 Home and Away.** Nick decides to tell Fiona about Greg and sparks off a huge row (Teletext) (26502511) **1.55 A Country Practice.** Drama serial set in Australian country town (s) (42314248)
2.20 Gardener's Diary (17841998) **2.50 The Young Doctors.** Australian hospital drama serial (5849462)
3.20 ITN News headlines (9863288) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9862559)
3.30 The Riddlers (3517608) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (1147066) **3.50 Cartoon** with Bugs Bunny (1176578) **4.00 The Raggy Dolls** (s) (4478795) **4.15 Hurricanes.** Animation (8692240) **4.40 Children's Ward.** Hospital drama series. Zed comes under pressure as Nicky's life hangs in the balance (Teletext) (s) (2647530)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (7487630)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with John Suchet (Teletext) and weather (344917)
6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) (89578)



New faces in the rural drama series (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale. The McAllister family moves to Beckindale. (Teletext) (5004)
7.30 American Affair. Randall Lee Rose continues his investigation of American influence on British life with a visit to the City of London where he finds people talk and work in the American way (269)
8.00 The Bill. The Crown Prosecution Service thinks a case against an armed robber may collapse because Det Con Carver and Pc Jarvis have not got enough evidence (Teletext) (1424)
8.30 CHOICE **Danielle Steel's Jewels** (Teletext) (64220)
10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville (Teletext) and weather (21066)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (261795)
10.40 Danielle Steel's Jewels continued (559207)
11.35 Carlton Sport. Highlights of Coca-Cola Cup fourth round replays (440530)
12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H (2481689)
1.00 The Little Picture Show. Reviews of *Falling Down*, starring Michael Douglas, and *Cinema Paradiso* (62863)
2.00 The Twilight Zone: Button Button. A tale of the supernatural (7757028)
2.25 FILM: What a Crazy World (1963). Musical starring Joe Brown and Susan Maughan. An East-End boy pursues a career in music against his family's wishes. Directed by Michael Carreras (423592)
4.00 The Beat. Music and movie magazine (r) (s) (65221)
5.00 Riviera. French soap opera (28370)
5.30 ITN Morning News (33641) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Ulysses 31. Animated space adventures (29269)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (63191)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (r) (s) (31443)
9.30 Profiles of Nature: In Search of the Hawk. Canadian cameraman Joe Milner captures the nesting and breeding habits of the ferruginous hawk and Swainson's hawk (76563)
10.30 All The Rivers Run II. The penultimate episode of the Australian drama serial starring John Waters, Nikki Coghill and Parker Stevenson (r) (1345288)
11.25 William Blake. Sheila Graber's animation based on the works of William Blake (8906424)
11.30 Blood, Sweat and Glory. The series on the history of sport continues with a look at the sporting traditions of North America (r) (4630)
12.00 House To House. Maya Even with political news from both Houses (51207)
12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning series (90375) **1.30 Alfred J. Kwak.** Adventures of a musical duck (r) (61172)
2.00 FILM: Charley Moon (1956) starring Max Bygraves. A musical about a successful London variety singer who decides to give it all up and retire to the countryside, where he joins a circus. With Dennis Price and Michael Medwin. Directed by Guy Hamilton (653085)
3.40 Spacebourne. A Nasa short on the beauty of space (3528714)
3.55 Crawshaw's Watercolour Studio. Alwyn Crawshaw explains the advantage of gouache in watercolour painting (5923801)
4.30 Fifteen To One. Fast-moving knock-out general knowledge quiz. The question-master is William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (882)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guests are parents with children who went off the rails. (Teletext) (s) (1969714)
5.50 Laurel and Hardy. Animation (854085)
6.00 Mork and Mindy. Vintage American comedy series starring Robin Williams and Pam Dawber (r) (375)
6.30 Roseanne. Wisecracking comedy (r). (Teletext) (s) (627)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (753288)
7.50 Refugee Story. Mohammed Filipovic, a refugee from Bosnia. (Teletext) (375608)



Atkinson and Toksvig communicate (8.00pm)

8.00 The Talking Show. In the last programme of the series Sandi Toksvig and her guests, Professor Max Atkinson, Martin Lloyd Elliott and Michelle Collins, evaluate the progress of the group of talkers over the past six weeks. (Teletext) (s) (9066)
8.30 Check Out 93. Tina Jenkins talks to experts to find out if recycling is as ecologically sensible as people think (1801)
9.00 CHOICE **From Beirut To Bosnia: The Road to Palestine.** (Teletext) (7559)
10.00 The Secret Cabaret With Simon Drake. More magic from the master illusionist (r) (920646)
10.35 FILM: The Hotel New Hampshire (1984) starring Rob Lowe, Jodie Foster and Nastassja Kinski. Black comedy, based on John Irving's bestseller about an unconventional family's bizarre obsession with running hotels in America and Austria. Directed by Tony Richardson (80806530)
12.35am Football Italia – Mezzanotte. Cagliari v Parma (2447979). Ends at **1.35**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (**FM** only) **7.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** News '93 **6.30** Evening Session **9.00** Musicmusicmusic: Jonathan King reports on jobs and businesses associated with the music industry **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (**FM** only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Peter Goodwright's Radio Times **7.30** Hayes Over Britain: Brian Hayes considers the rise in drug abuse **9.00** Home Sweet Home: A concert to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of singer Adelina Patti **10.00** The Rat Pack **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Dilemmas **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative **12.30pm** Strange Stories: Uri Geller **1.00** News and Sport **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-In **6.30** Hero to Zero, by John Salthouse (5/6) **7.15** Crazy Christmas, by Jeanne Betancourt Read by Kimberly Bevers (3/4) **7.30** Football Plus **10.10** Earshot **12.00-12.10am** News. Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** World News **6.10** British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** Trees **8.00** World News **8.15** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Coast to Coast **9.30** On Screen **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Discovery **10.30** Letters in the USA **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 1 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Vintage Thurber **2.45** Capriccio **3.00** World News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** World News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop: including Nachrichten aus Grossbritannien, EuroJournal, Tips für Tounsten **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** Concert Hall: **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Omnibus **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Homeward Bound **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Development '93 **3.00** World News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Discovery **4.00** World News **4.15** Waveguide **4.25** Book Choice

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor: John Lill; CBSO under Walter Weller) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** The Crisis Messiah See Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin, including the Classical Reaction **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Emperor Rosko **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Wandy Lloyd

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.58am-10.00 Anglia News (3835827) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News And Weather (9182998) **1.55** A Country Practice (42314248) **2.20-2.50** The Way We Were (17841998) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News And Weather (9862559) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (7487630) **6.00** Home And Away (126714) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (381707) **7.30-8.00** Help (269) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (261795) **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H (950207) **12.30am** Film: Hell Night (592009) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (2038202) **3.20** The ITV Chart Show (8986221) **4.10** Nite Bites (24734134) **4.30** Riviera (74864383) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7525641)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News (9182998) **1.55** Shortland Street (42314248) **2.20** Travel Trails (17841998) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5849462) **3.25-3.30** Central News (9862559) **5.10-5.40** Gardening Time (7487630) **6.00** Home And Away (126714) **6.25-7.00** Central News (381707) **7.30-8.00** Tuesday Special (269) **10.30-10.40** Central News (261795) **11.35** Married With Children (410269) **12.05am** Kojak (3278047) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (69115) **1.30** The Big E (3924028) **2.25** Take 15 (5872467) **2.40** Riviera (86232002) **3.10** The Beat (7519221) **4.10-5.20** Jobfinder (5507028)

VARIATIONS

HTV WEST

As London except: 2.20-2.50 Travel Trails (17841998) **6.00** HTV News (733) **6.30-7.00** Bitty (135) **7.30-8.00** County Watch (269) **10.30-10.40** HTV News & Weather (261795) **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H (950207) **12.30am** Film: Hell Night (592009) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (2038202) **3.20** The ITV Chart Show (8986221) **4.10** Nite Bites (24734134) **4.30** Riviera (74864383) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7525641)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 6.00 Wales At Six (733) **6.30-7.00** The Munsters Today (135) **7.30-8.00** Disaster Chronicles (269)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 2.20 Yan Can Cook (17841998) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5849462) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (733) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (135) **7.30-8.00** Great House Cookery (269) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News & Weather (261795) **11.35** The Equalizer (950207) **12.30am** The Late Picture Show (73979) **1.30-2.25** The Twilight Zone (3924028) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (26370)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 2.20-2.50 Travel Trails (17841998) **3.15-3.20** What Dog? (9866375) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News (9862559) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (729801) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (135) **7.30-8.00** Celebration '93 (269) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News (261795) **11.35** Film: Hardcastle And McCormick (273191) **1.15am** The Little Picture Show (718318) **2.15** Sledge Hammer (13405) **2.45** 60 Minutes (9238757) **3.40** Stage Two: The Wolfgang Press (2114432) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (2483573)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 1.55 The Young Doctors (20016240) **2.25** Travel Trails (17841998) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (1457849) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (9862559) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (695678) **7.30-8.00** Men In A Woman's World (269) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry Latest (261795) **11.35** Prisoner: Cell Block H (9366827) **12.25am** My Story (9727841) **12.30** Film: Hell Night (5920009) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (2038202) **3.20** The ITV Chart Show (8986221) **4.10** Nite Bites (24734134) **4.25** Get Stuffed (59796863) **4.30** Riviera (74864383) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7525641)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 2.20-2.50 Travel Trails (17841998) **3.15-3.20** What Dog? (9866375) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News (9862559) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (729801) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (135) **7.30-8.00** Celebration '93 (269) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News (261795) **11.35** Film: Hardcastle And McCormick (273191) **1.15am** The Little Picture Show (718318) **2.15** Sledge Hammer (13405) **2.45** 60 Minutes (9238757) **3.40** Stage Two: The Wolfgang Press (2114432) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (2483573)

S4C

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (83181) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (31443) **9.30** Profiles Of Nature (76563) **10.30** All The Rivers Run (1345288) **11.25** William Blake (8906424) **11.30** Blood, Sweat And Glory (4630) **12.00pm** House To House (51207) **12.30** Slot Melynfin (62801) **1.00** The Wonder Years (73576) **1.30** Plant Life (61172) **2.00** The Late Late Show (44578) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey Show (55111153) **3.55** Laurel And Hardy (1167820) **4.00** Slot 23 (9563) **5.00** Moviewatch (3882) **5.30** Fifteen To One (492) **6.00** Newyddion (207153) **6.30** Cwlwm Serch (4639646) **6.55** Heno (181789) **7.30** Pobol Y Cwm (3646) **7.30** Sex Yn Y Ddinas (511) **8.00** Tydi Coleg Yn Gret (90669) **8.30** Newyddion (1801) **9.00** Cutting Edge (7559) **10.00** The Golden Girls (29608) **10.30** Dim Tafod (52356) **11.30** The Secret Cabaret With Simon Drake (32733) **12.00am** The Almost Complete History Of The Twentieth Century (6515283) **12.15** Desmond's (91283) **12.45** Four-Masons (80554)

RADIO 3

6.55am News
7.00 On Air, introduced by Andrew McGregor. Humperdinck (Overture, Königskinder); Torelli (Concerto à 4, Op 8 No 6, Per il Santissimo Natale); Sibelius (Malinconia, Op 20); Mozart (Horn Concerto No 3 in E flat, K447); Beethoven (Prisoners' Chorus, Fidelio); Copland (El Salón Mexico)
9.00 An Advent Calendar: The Pongos under Richard Pomfret perform Trad (Zezulka z lesa: Sing We the Virgin Mary)
9.10 Composer of the Week: Elliott Carter, in conversation with Misha Donat, introduces The Harmony of Morning (Gregg Smith Singers and Chamber Orchestra under Gregg Smith); A Fantasy about Purcell's Fantasia on One Note (London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble under Christopher Larkin); String Quartet No 1 (Composers' Quartet)
10.15 Musical Encounters, with Edward Blakeman. Donizetti (Sinfonia); Ralf (Sinfonietta); Alessandro Scarlatti (Cantata Pastorale, Tocco la prima sortea); **11.00** Copland (Music for the Theater); Reicha (Fugues: Nos 12, 13 and 20); Smetana (Polka No 2); **11.30** Mozart (Symphony No 29 in A, K201)
12.00 Music Restored: The Flute at Court (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic under Günther Herbig. Brahms (Symphony No 3 in F; Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat: John Lill)
2.40 Joseph Jongen: A BBC Invitation Concert to mark the birth of the Belgian organist, composer and teacher, 120 years ago today. The BBC Singers under Simon Joly, with Jeremy Filsell, organ, perform Haec dies; O quam amabilis; Alma redemptoris Mater; O filii et filiae; Sonata Eroica; Mass, Op 130
3.55 The BBC Orchestras: BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Gareth Jones performs Weber (Overture, Oberon); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat: Ronan O'Hora); Hindemith (Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber)
5.00 In Tune, with Geoffrey Baskerville in Glasgow. Including Berlioz (Overture, Rob Roy); Rameau (Pièces de clavecin en concerts No 3); Monteverdi (Zefiro Torna)
7.30 Pebble Mill 1993/94: Live from Studio One, Coull Quartet performs Britten (String Quartet No 3); Bridge (Three Idylls). **8.10** Christopher Palmer considers Walton's chamber music. **8.30** Walton (String Quartet in A minor)
9.15 History Now and Then: Second of four discussions chaired by Roy Porter. Linda Colley, Patricia Grimshaw and Vic Seidler consider sex, gender and history
9.35 Songs of Life and Love: Luigi Nono (Ricorda cosa ti hanno fatto in Auschwitz; . . . sofferte onde serene . . ., Il canto sospeso
10.45 Night Waves: Roy Porter reviews Nicholas Kent's production of *The Playboys of the West Indies*, and considers the relocation of classic plays
11.30 Songs of Life and Love: BBC Symphony Orchestra under Richard Bernas performs Schumann (Overture, Genoveva); Busoni (Three Elegies); Luigi Nono (Canti di vita e d'amore)
12.30am News 12.35-12.45 An Advent Calendar (as 9am)

CHOICE

Devil's Advocate: Iago. *Radio 4, 8.30pm.*

The level of seriousness with which Kathy Lette interviews Robert Stephens about Othello's malevolent ensign can be gauged from her fanciful theory about his eventual fate. He would, she assumes, have been hired by the Venetian *News of the World* "to exercise his poisonous magic for the profit of one Ruperto Murdochio". Fortunately, Stephens makes an intelligent response to another of Lette's eccentric interpretations of Shakespeare's text. Iago, she opines, thinks monogamy is what dining-room tables are made from.

The Crisis Messiah. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

The word "crisis" makes us sit up and take notice. Which is the intention. It has nothing to do with Handel's oratorio, but everything to do with the cause that will benefit from this live relay of *Messiah* from St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. During the transmission, listeners can phone their contributions to a fund that will help the homeless this Christmas. The soloists are Eiddwen Harry, Paul Eswood and Stephen Varcoe. Ian Watson conducts the Joyful Company of Singers and the Esterhazy Players. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 071-580 4444 from 8am
10.00-10.30 Looking for an Old England (FM only): Billy Bragg discusses the meaning of the stone circle in Avebury
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Amos. Art Malik reads the concluding selection
10.30 Woman's Hour talks to women who have recently converted to Roman Catholicism, including MP Anne Widdecombe and writer Sara Maitland **11.00 News**
11.30 Medicine Now, presented by Geoff Watts
12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Wordly Wise: Peter Hobday chairs the quiz about the origins of words and phrases. With David Thomas, Lorelei King, Andy Hamilton and Rosie Boycott (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Maiden City Magic. Sometimes we yearn for a magic wand to change our lives completely. Jack Houlahan's first play, joint third prize-winner at this year's Prix Italia, is about that moment of longing. With Anna Healy, Maeve Connelly and Stella McCusker (r)
2.30 Personal Records: Jeremy Nicholas visits John Peel's home to explore his record collection
3.00-4.00 News; Prime Minister's Questions (LW only): live from Westminster
3.00 Inner Journeys — Outward Shows (FM only): Jim Perrin presents portraits of three British explorers. This week, Eric Shipton
3.30 Pot Luck — with John Tovey (FM only): John Tovey exchanges recipe ideas for desserts with Vanessa Binns in her Cheshire kitchen
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope considers the best of this year's fiction; and reports on the first night of *Pisa*, directed by Peter Hall
4.45 Short Story: The Dark World, by Rhys Davies. Read by Iestyn Jones
5.00 PM with John Sopel and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Gentleman and Ladies: Episode two of Susan Hill's study of friendship and family ties in a small English village. With Patricia Hayes, Stephanie Cole and Siân Phillips (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4: Terry Dignan reports
8.00 Science Now (r)
8.30 Devil's Advocate: See Choice
8.45 In Touch: For people with a visual handicap
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Bel Ami, by Guy de Maupassant. Read by Alex Jennings (2/12)
11.00 Mediumwave (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (**LW** only)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

8.00am The DJ Kat Show (83985559) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (7763786) **9.10** Cartoons (4451917) **9.30** Card Sharks (9026288) **9.55** Concentration (9034207) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7530511) **10.30** Love at First Sight (93237) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (86066) **12.00** Urban Peasant (84559) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (95153) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (90808) **2.00** Seventh Avenue (51882) **3.00** Another World (8467337) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5694375) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1207) **6.00** Games World (8848) **6.30** Paradise Beach (2801) **7.00** Rescue (9606) **7.30** Growing Pains (8085) **8.00** Anything But Love (6356) **8.30** Designing Women (3761) **9.00** Melrose Place (39511) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (46998) **11.00** The Untouchables (98789) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (86554) **1.00am** Night Court (24641) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (54370)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (51443) **9.30** ABC Nightline (88269) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (88375) **11.30** Japan Business Today (71627) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (82181) **1.30** CBS Morning News (63820) **2.30** Parliament Live (16268) **4.30** News and Business Report (5996) **5.00** Live at Five (287022) **7.30** Target (20240) **9.30** Talkback (13559) **11.30** CBS News (86849) **12.30am** ABC News (86467) **1.30** Target (48080) **2.30** Beyond 2000 (78370) **3.30** Talkback (80115) **4.30** Target (91650) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (71825)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (5271733)
10.00 Delirious (1991): Comedy set in the world of soap operas (29199)
12.00 Big Man on Campus (1990): College antics with Allan Katz (65065)
2.00pm Tom Brown's Schooldays (1951): Adaptation of Thomas Hughes's novel about life at Rugby school (83578)
4.00 Crack in the World (1965): A scientist fires a missile into the earth's core (5511)
6.00 Delirious (as 10am) (43714)
8.00 Billy Bathgate (1991): Loren Dean is recruited by mobster Dutch Schultz (Dustin Hoffman). With Nicole Kidman (55558)
10.00 Operation Condor: Armour of God II: Martial arts thriller (898004)
11.50 Retribution (1987): The spirit of a murdered gangster inhabits the body of a dying man. With Dennis Lipscomb (531627)
1.40am Liebestraum (1991): Kevin Anderson is caught up in a murder (31673329)
3.45 Blind Vision (1990): Psychological drama about a loner who keeps watch on his beautiful neighbour (598196). Ends at **5.20**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Carmen Jones (1954): All-black version of Bizet's opera (34004)
8.00 Gregory's Girl (1982): Endearing Scottish comedy with John Gordon Sinclair wooing ace footballer, Dee Hepburn (48949)
10.00 Rambo III (1988): Sylvester Stallone ventures into Russian-occupied Afghanistan (944882). Ends at **11.35**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am This Earth is Mine (1959): Vintner Claude Rains encounters opposition. With Jean Simmons, Rock Hudson (21565284)
8.05 Scooby-Doo and the Ghoul School: Cartoon capers (80410530)
10.00 On Our Own: Four young children run away from home. With Scott Warner (97511)
12.00 The List of Adrian Messenger (1963): John Huston's murder-mystery stars George C. Scott and Dana Wynter (83627)
2.00pm Outback (1986): Australian dr

SPORT

TUESDAY DECEMBER 14 1993

Austrian skier claims first World Cup victory



Christian Mayer, of Austria, negotiates a gate at Val d'Isère in the French Alps yesterday on the way to his first victory in a World Cup giant slalom. Results, page 36

Wales want Yorath to carry on

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Football Association of Wales (FAW) pledged its support for the national manager, Terry Yorath, yesterday, thereby quashing speculation that Terry Venables would be given the job. Venables, the former Tottenham Hotspur manager, was touted as Yorath's successor after contract talks hit apparent deadlock last week but the Welsh FA has denied approaching him. Talks with Yorath, whose contract runs out at the end of the year, will resume tomorrow.

Alun Evans, the association's secretary, said yesterday: "We will offer what we think we can afford and hopefully we will be able to announce on Thursday morning that Terry Yorath is continuing as team manager. It will solve a lot of problems and end speculation about a new man."

Venables has Welsh connections. His mother came from the Principality and he once bought his family a pub in mid-Glamorgan. He was also linked with the job five years ago as successor to Mike England, but Tottenham rebuffed Wales's approach and Yorath was appointed.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, hopes his team will capitalise on their bogy-team status to pile on the problems for Liverpool in a Coca-Cola Cup fourth round replay at Selhurst Park tonight. Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, is coming under increasing pressure, with his team once again failing to convince, despite the millions of pounds lavished on it.

Liverpool know that Wimbledon are one of the teams that have given them most problems over the last few years. As well as the FA Cup final win over the Anfield side in 1988, Wimbledon have not lost to Liverpool in their last five league and cup meetings.

Souness is expected to resist a shake-up after the disappointing 2-2 draw with Swindon Town on Saturday, although Wright and Fowler have minor knocks. Clough is again expected to be left out. Wimbledon, fresh from their 1-0 away victory against Aston Villa in the FA Carling Premiership on Saturday, will probably name an unchanged team.

Bobby Robson is believed to be favourite to become manager of Everton. The Goodison board will meet soon to discuss a replacement for Howard Kendall, who left nine days ago.

It is likely to include the former England manager, Robson, 60, who parted company with Sporting Lisbon last week, the former Everton player, Peter Reid, the Oldham Athletic manager, Joe Royle, and the Bolton manager, Bruce Rioch.

Ian Branfoot, the Southampton manager, has been priced out of the race for Manchester United's unsettled forward, Dion Dublin. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, has told Branfoot he wants £1.8 million for Dublin, who has been unable to command a regular place at Old Trafford. But Branfoot, desperate to buy a striker with the £2 million he collected for Tim Flowers, says that is out of his range. Southampton have not scored in the last four games and they have only found the target 18 times this season.

Kevin Richardson, the Aston Villa captain and midfield player who has missed their last two games with a back injury, is poised to return away to Manchester United on Sunday. He could be joined by the full back, Steve Staunton, who starts his comeback trail tonight in a testimonial match at Oxford United. The Ireland international has not played for two months following a groin operation.

Ferguson punished

IAN Ferguson has been disciplined by Rangers over the spitting incident that earned him a red card during the home defeat by Dundee United on Saturday.

The club manager, Walter Smith, said yesterday that the matter has been "dealt with" but in accordance with his usual policy declined to reveal the nature of the penalty. But it is thought that Ferguson has been fined two weeks' wages.

The offence, which was picked up by television cameras, is sure to feature in the report the match referee, Bill Crombie, will submit to the Scottish FA and could lead to a charge of bringing the game into disrepute being levelled against the Scottish international, who starts a four-match suspension this weekend.

David Miller, page 38

Malle stands by decision to search for stricken yacht

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN FREMANTLE

DANIEL Malle and his crew aboard La Poste arrived here in Western Australia yesterday in time to deny suggestions raised by Italian journalists that their search for Guido Maisto's missing yacht, Brooksfield, in the Whitbread Round the World Race, had somehow been more to do with media hype than a matter of life and death.

Malle's French maxi was in the most favourable position to turn back when Brooksfield's emergency signal was picked up during the second leg 11 days ago by the Australian Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre at Canberra.

Brooksfield's blip on the satellite at 0718hrs, which was reported to the race organisers 90 minutes later, gave no indication of their crew's plight, though like all emergency calls it was treated with the utmost seriousness.

With the benefit of hindsight, the race organisers should have made clear in their first press release, timed at 1315, that the rescue authorities had picked up another three emergency signals from the yacht's automatic indicator, showing an hourly drift of 2.6 knots.

Instead, the release informed the press and families of the crew involved that "Brooksfield had failed to respond to the 0755 position report call or any subsequent attempts to contact her."

That left the impression among many journalists, particularly in Italy, that just one signal had been picked up from the yacht before the worst had occurred.

In fact, it was not until 2230 that further signals were reported from the yacht. Ian Bailey-Willmot, the race director, explained yesterday: "We had no way of knowing from those signals whether the yacht was upside down, whether the emergency buoy was floating alone in the water, or whether the crew had it with them in a life raft."

Bailey-Willmot called on two yachts, La Poste and the American Whitbread 60-class entry, Winston, to turn back in search for Brooksfield at 1045. And, to avoid another dispute that has broken here after at least one skipper reportedly refused to join in the search, he confirmed, pointedly: "I called on only two yachts to turn back and they did so promptly and without hesitation."

The La Poste crew sighted Brooksfield at 2245 after first spotting a blip on their radar screen. "It was just a target. We did not know if it was them or ice, but then we saw their mast, made contact on the VHF and were relieved to find all were well," Malle said, adding that three tons of water had flooded in through a hole left by a broken rudder that had knocked out their electronics.

Malle's Portuguese watchleader, João Cabecades, was adamant that criticism of Maisto's emergency call was badly misplaced. "Nobody has the right to judge whether others should switch on or off their distress signal. The Brooksfield crew are good seamen — I have sailed with some of them before. If these guys decided to switch on a distress signal, it was the right thing to do. If it puts lives at risk or not, that is what we are here for. In a race like this, we know that we can count only on other competitors to help each other."

Last night, Eugene Platon's Ukrainian entry, Hetman Sahaidachny, took seventh place in the Whitbread 60 class, and she will be followed in early today by the Women's Challenge and Brooksfield.

RACE POSITIONS

WHITBREAD 60 CLASS: 1, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 25days 14hr 39min; 2, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ) 26:16:39; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 26:20:27; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 25:22:10; 5, Winston (B Butterworth, US) 26:12:06; 6, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr) 29:18:29. Overall (after two legs): 1, Tokio 50:03:07; 2, Intrum Justitia 50:17:19; 3, Yamaha 50:17:59; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova 50:18:41; 5, Winston 51:11:58 — subject to redress; 6, Hetman Sahaidachny 58:01:02.

MAXI CLASS: 1, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz) 25:21:11; 2, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 25:22:57; 3, La Poste (D Malle, Fr) 29:04:29. Overall (after two legs): 1, NZ Endeavour 50:06:16; 2, Merit Cup 50:12:53; 3, La Poste 54:22:33.

OTHER POSITIONS (at 09.30GMT yesterday, with miles to Fremantle): Whitbread 60 class: 7, Women's Challenge (D Riley, US) 319; 8, Brooksfield (G Maisto, It) 380 (estimate); 9, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr) 617; 10, Dolphin and Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 750. Maxi class: 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzini, Uru) 582.

BT Information provided by BT

Moratuwa Test ruined by defective drainage



Richardson: frustrated

Simon Wilde believes that big matches in Sri Lanka are lacking in organisation

SRI Lanka have been staging Test cricket for 12 years now, but they still do not seem to quite have the hang of it. Their fiftieth Test match — and their first against West Indies — ended yesterday in a damp draw. Half the match was lost to bad weather even though not a drop of rain fell during the hours of play.

This was hardly what the Sri Lankan board needed. Four months ago, they suffered the embarrassment of having a home Test against India washed out after staging a match at Kandy in the rainy season. This time, it was not so much the rains but the drains that caused the problem.

The night before the match it poured down, soaking the outfield and resulting in the start being delayed. On Saturday night it poured, soaking the outfield and causing the fourth day's play to be lost. On Sunday night it rained, soaking the outfield and causing the final day's play to be lost. On each of these occasions, it did not rain during the day. Indeed, on the last two days, the sun was even shining and matches were proceeding on nearby grounds, but it did not matter. Moratuwa itself was a "mudhole".

"Probably this ground takes a little more time to recover than the other grounds," Neil Perera, secretary of the Sri Lankan board, said yesterday. "We never bargained for rain at this time of the year. We will take steps to see that the drainage is upgraded."

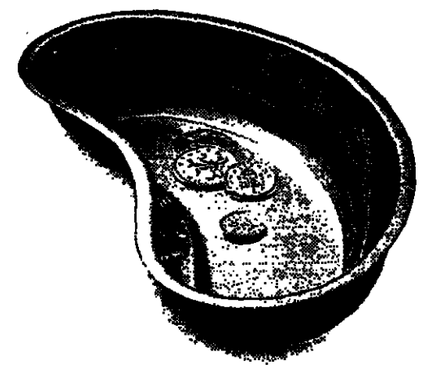
But perhaps it was not simply a matter of being unlucky with the weather. After all, Moratuwa, on the southern outskirts of Colombo, can hardly be considered the first choice for such an important match: the city has three other Test grounds. Perhaps the Sri Lankan board had their reasons for staging the match where they did. Moratuwa is known as one of the flattest and truest pitches on the island and thus suited to spin. Sri Lanka's long suit, and not to pace, which is the West Indies trump card.

"Tyronne Fernando [the board president] never pushed for the match to be played here," Perera said yesterday, but other people will take some convincing. Shortly after arriving on the island, Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, had denounced the practice of countries preparing pitches to suit themselves. "That is like cheating and is unfair to me," he said. "If we wanted to, we would prepare the fastest pitches back home and that would suit us perfectly. But we don't do that." Perish the thought.

SCORES: Sri Lanka 180 (P A de Silva 53) and 43-2; West Indies 204 (C L Hooper 62, R B Richardson 51).

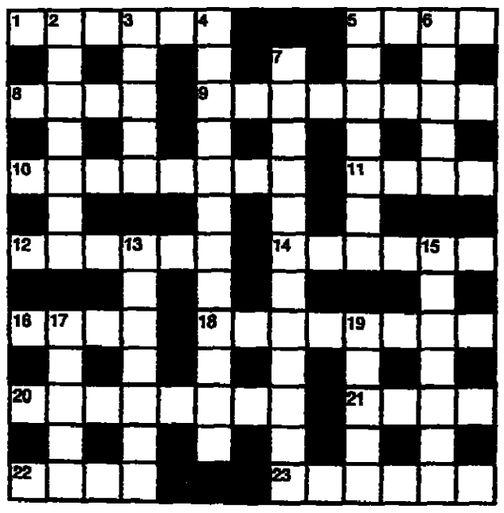
Ilott in the swing, page 38

ANOTHER SICK CHARITY AD.



Kidney diseases still hit one in five of us.
But the sick thing is, the Kidney Fund isn't even one of the top 300 charities in Britain.
Our research stops suffering and saves lives.
Your donation or legacy can only make things better.
Please help. Call 0480 454828 for credit card donations or fill in the coupon.

Cheques and postal orders should be made out to the National Kidney Research Fund and sent to: 3 Archers Court, Stukeley Road, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 6XG.
Please send me more information and/or a donor card. ☐
Name _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Card No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Expiry Date _____ Signature _____
Please debit my Visa/Access/Other card by
☐ £5 ☐ £10 ☐ £20
☐ Other £ _____
TT1
NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH FUND
The NKRF is a registered charity, Reg No. 252892.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

NO 38

ACROSS

1 Painting on wet plaster . . . (6)
5 . . . unvarnished (4)
8 Vibrate contentedly (4)
9 One abandoning a cause (8)
10 Wyoming capital (8)
11 Attention (4)
12 The once and future king (6)
14 Conqueror (6)
16 Grand dance (4)
18 State of speaking through the nose (8)
20 Beat violently (8)
21 Convey by gesture (4)
22 Went out (4)
23 Leaseholder (6)

DOWN

2 Less polished (7)
3 Apologetic (5)
4 Undistinguished condition (12)
5 Of the god of wine (7)
6 Unsecured (5)
7 Bubbling (12)
13 Large edible salt-water flatfish (7)
15 Of the Turkish empire (7)
17 Open-mouthed (5)
19 Citrus fruit (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 37

ACROSS: 1 Namesake 7 Stove 8 Mare's nest 9 Set 10 Hole 11 People 13 Choker 14 Fettle 17 Burrow 18 Form 20 Bar 22 Cock robin 23 Batik 24 Greyness

DOWN: 1 Nymph 2 Morello 3 Susa 4 Keeper 5 House 6 Vestige 7 Stephen 12 Defrock 13 Cry-baby 15 Trouble 16 Concur 17 Brute 19 Minus 21 Dray

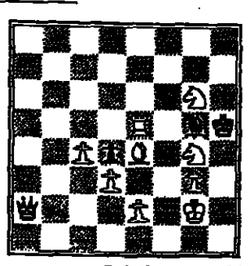
CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: Crosswords on computer (circa 60 puzzles per title — enhanced graphics) for all IBM and Acorn PCs. Price £10.70 each. Range includes: The Times Crosswords — Volumes 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 14,15 & 16 (Bks). The Times Jubilee Puzzles. The Times Concise Crosswords — 3 & 4. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Volumes 1,2,3,4, and 10 and 11 (Bks). The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords — 1 & 2. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released for Christmas. The Times Crosswords 17. The Times Concise Crosswords 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords 12. The Sunday Times Computer Crosswords — Vols 5 & 6 £10.70 each.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Larsen - Chandler, Hastings Premier 1987/88. How did Grandmaster Bent Larsen force a swift mate?



Top Grandmasters at this year's Hastings Premier include Nunn, Krasenkov, Rogers and Sherbakov. Spectators are very welcome. For further details ring 0424 445348.

Solution, page 36

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DICKENSIANS
CIRCUMLOCUTION OFFICE
a. Chancery
b. The Times
c. The Civil Service
MRS LUPIN
a. A tipsy midwife
b. A credulous landlady
c. A lion-huntress

JEREMIAH CRUNCHER
a. An unsuccessful prize-fighter
b. A resurrection man
c. A coachman
LAWRENCE BOYTHORN
a. A hearty countryman
b. A travel writer
c. A priggish curate

Answers on page 36